

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Monday, 28th July 1952.

The House met in the Assembly Chamber, Government Estate, Mount Road, Madras, at half past ten of the clock, Mr. Speaker (THE HON. SRI J. SIVASHANMUGAM PILLAI) in the chair.

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

MR. SPEAKER:—"I have placed 29 questions before the House to-day and I would like to finish them in one hour."

Gruel centres in Chittoor district.

* 253 Q.—SRI D. SEETHARAMIAH: Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Tahsildar, Vayalpad taluk, was instructed by wire by the concerned district authorities to stop payment of bills to all the gruel centre presidents in the taluk;

(b) if so, on what grounds;

(c) whether gruel centres are very often stopped in Vayalpad and Madanapalle taluks;

(d) whether he is getting reports that the attendance at the gruel centres in Vayalpad, Madanapalle and Punganur taluks is increasing daily; and

(e) whether the Government have received complaints that lot of mismanagement and corruption are prevailing in some gruel centres in Chittoor district?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER:—" (a) & (c) The Government are not aware of any such instructions having been issued. The general policy is not to stop gruel centres unless the attendance falls so low that it would be unnecessary to continue them.

" (d) & (e) Government have received no representations of this nature."

SRI D. SEETHARAMIAH:—"Sir, in view of the fact that a telegram has been received—and I have actually seen that telegram—will the Government instruct the district officials not to interfere too often and to see that the bills are paid to the presidents of the gruel centres regularly so that they may not be stopped?"

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER:—"Yes, Sir, I will see that the bills are regularly paid."

SRI LAKSHMINARAYANA REDDI:—"Is it a fact, Sir, the advance amounts to the managing committees of gruel centres have been stopped in Anantapur district thus leading to the closure of gruel centres?"

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THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER:—"Sir, I have already said that there is no information about it."

SRI N. SIVARAMI REDDI:—"Sir, are the Government aware that supplies to gruel centres are not maintained properly and that the cost of the labour and firewood is not met by the Government and consequently, it has become impossible for the managers of these gruel centres to run them properly and, taking advantage of this situation, the local officers are closing down the gruel centres? Also, will the Government provide gruel to adult persons also or in the alternative provide them with employment?"

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER:—"Sir, all that the hon. Member has said will be looked into."

Hunger-strike of Communist prisoners in Cannanore Jail.

* 254 Q.—SRI K. P. GOPALAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Law be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Communist convicted prisoners in Cannanore Jail have decided to go on hunger-strike on July 20th and if so, what are the reasons for the same?

THE HON. SRI K. P. KUTTIKRISHNAN NAYAR:—"A request has been received from three of the prisoners in the Cannanore Jail of whom one is an under-trial and has been subsequently released on bail, that they may be released and that pending their release, they may be given some additional privileges. They have threatened to go on hunger-strike if their requests are not favourably considered. The matter is receiving attention.

"I may also add that they have given up the hunger-strike on the 21st July 1952 afternoon and subsequently one of them has been ordered to be released after remitting the sentence. The other is awarded a life sentence and Government have considered it fit not to interfere with the sentence."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"May I know, Sir, what are the additional facilities which the prisoners are asking for?"

THE HON. SRI K. P. KUTTIKRISHNAN NAYAR:—"Sir, they have asked for very many facilities which are not warranted by the rules."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"Sir, I asked the Hon. Minister to specifically mention the facilities asked for. Whether they are warranted by the rules or not is a different matter. I want an exact reply, Sir."

THE HON. SRI K. P. KUTTIKRISHNAN NAYAR:—"Sir, the hon. Member can put a separate question and then I will catalogue all the demands."

SRI T. NAGI REDDI:—"Sir, the Hon. the Chief Minister said a few days back in his reply that the question of release was

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engaging the attention of the Government and that they were very closely and sympathetically considering it. So, the answer that the Hon. the Minister for Jails to-day gave regarding this prisoner came as a surprise. Is it to be taken, Sir, that the Hon. the Chief Minister's answer that the question of release is under consideration is not correct? "

THE HON. SRI K. P. KUTTIKRISHNAN NAYAR:—" Sir, my answer has borne out the fact stated by the Hon. the Chief Minister. It was in pursuance of such consideration that one person was ordered to be released."

SRI T. C. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR:—" May I know, Sir, whether the Government will consider the case of Chirakkal Kunhiraman Nambiar, who is a lifer, in view of the fact that the so-called offence committed by him took place in 1946, that is, before August 1947, and also in view of the fact that he was one of the Volunteer Officers? "

THE HON. SRI K. P. KUTTIKRISHNAN NAYAR:—" Sir, the Government have already considered his case."

Payment of allowance to election staff.

* 255 Q.—SRI N. SIVARAMI REDDI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the staff employed by the Government on the polling day of the last General Elections have not yet been paid the allowance due to them; and

(b) if so, why?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM:—" (a) In some districts, where some of the polling personnel have not yet been paid their travelling allowance, the Collectors have been instructed to settle these claims without any avoidable delay.

" (b) The delay in these cases is due to such causes as late submission of bills by the polling personnel and defective preparation of the bills."

SRI N. SIVARAMI REDDI:—" Sir, are the Government aware that a lorry carrying polling staff consisting of some non-gazetted officers in Cuddapah district turned upside down while crossing the ghats in the Seshachalam forest, causing serious injury to the polling personnel? Full details of this have been published in the dailies. Are the Government providing any relief to the victims of this accident? "

MR. SPEAKER:—" This question deals with the payment of travelling allowance to the election staff and the point raised by the hon. Member is in no way connected with it."

SRI K. C. GOPALAN UNNI:—" Sir, will the polling staff be paid their travelling allowances before the next General Elections? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM:—" Sir, I do not know when the hon. Member expects the next General Elections."

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Payment of travelling allowance to teachers engaged in election work.

* 256 Q.—SRI V. R. KRISHNA AYYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) how many aided elementary school teachers remain to be paid their travelling allowances in connexion with the election duties they discharged in the last General Elections; and

(b) the reason for the delay?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM:—“(a) & (b) Government have no information on the point; but it has been called for and will be furnished to the hon. Member on receipt.”

SRI M. HANUMANTHA RAO:—“Sir, is the Hon. Minister aware of the fact that teachers and others who collected the Census statistics in 1950 have also not been paid the promised remuneration?”

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM:—“Sir, I am afraid, this has no relation to the subject of elections. The hon. Gentleman is putting a question about the Census.”

SRI V. R. KRISHNA AYYAR:—“May I know, Sir, since such a long time has elapsed after the elections, when will the Government come to know at least that these people have not been paid their travelling allowance?”

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM:—“Sir, the question is about the exact number of aided elementary school teachers who have yet to be paid their travelling allowance. I am not able to give the exact number but we know that certain teachers have not been paid. This delay was due to certain technical difficulties which have now been overcome, and the travelling allowance will be paid very soon.”

SRI K. VINAYAKAM:—“Sir, is the Hon. Minister aware of the fact that in the preparation of these bills, a mistake had been committed by the Collectorate with the result the aided elementary school teachers are penalized by not getting paid?”

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM:—“Sir, whoever might have been responsible, there were some mistakes which have been rectified. The teachers will be paid very soon.”

SRI M. NARAYANA NAMBIAR:—“Are the Government aware, Sir, that the district board teachers of South Kanara have not yet been paid their travelling allowance?”

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM:—“As I have already stated, every step is being taken to see that these teachers are paid as soon as possible.”

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Quarters for policemen.

* 257 Q.—SRI K. KRISHNA RAO: Will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that police constables who are not married are not allowed to occupy Government police lines quarters; and

(b) whether it is a fact that police constables who are not provided free quarters in police lines are not paid house-rent allowance, unless they produce rent receipt from the owners of the houses they take for rent?

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—“(a) The answer is in the negative, but where accommodation is limited preference is given to married persons.

“(b) The answer is in the negative. The Government have directed that house rent in lieu of rent-free quarters sanctioned to head constables and constables in the mufassal should be drawn in the pay bills of the men concerned as house-rent allowance and paid to them. To guard against incorrect drawal of house-rent allowance, and to ensure regular payment of rent to house-owners, it has also been ordered that the District Superintendents of Police should verify the fact of actual payment of rent by asking the recipients to produce before them rent receipts at least once in two months.”

SRI K. KRISHNA RAO:—“Are the Government aware of the fact, Sir, that no house-owner nowadays is prepared to give a receipt for the exact amount that he actually receives for fear of the tax being enhanced?”

10-40
a.m.

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—“This is not in Madras. These are mufassal rules.”

SRI T. NAGI REDDI:—“Is it to be taken, Sir, that those who have their own homes will not be given house-rent allowance? If it is to be taken so, may I know whether such a rule is being adopted in the cases of all persons from the Hon. Ministers down to police constables?”

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—“Each class of public servants is regulated by separate rules.

“Here is a case where a certain house-rent allowance was ordered for constables. It was found insufficient and, therefore, where they had to pay a higher rent, with the sanction of the local district officials, they were authorized by a decentralization order that it may be drawn on the pay bills. The only question is why the rent receipt is asked for. It is asked for to ensure correctness.”

SRI Y. MANJAYA SHETTY:—“As the quarters built for police constables are very small providing accommodation only for husband and wife, will the Government consider the question of constructing bigger quarters for those who are having bigger families?”

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THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—"I have already explained the position with regard to buildings."

SRI T. NAGI REDDI:—"My question was whether the police constables are being paid house-rent allowance even if they have houses of their own, and whether there is any rule that they should be given house-rent allowance even in cases where they have got houses of their own. If there is any such rule, may I know, Sir, whether it differs from place to place, from official to official, and from class to class?"

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—"If the hon. Member will put a separate question to me, I will study the whole set of rules, and answer."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"The Hon. Chief Minister stated in his reply that where accommodation was limited, preference was given to married persons. Is it not a fact, Sir, that bachelors are not given accommodation in such houses at all?"

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—"I understand the hon. Member's great sympathy for the constables."

The Kuttipuram bridge.

* 258 Q.—SRI P. KUNHI RAMA KIDAV: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) the stage at which the construction of the Kuttipuram bridge (Ponnani taluk, Malabar district) stands at present; and

(b) whether there is any proposal to postpone the construction?

THE HON. SRI N. RANGA REDDI:—" (a) The foundation work has been completed, most of the piers have been completed up to bed block level and the superstructure yet remains to be done. Out of eleven spans of the bridge, one span has already been cast and work in another span is in progress.

" (b) No."

Abolition of the system of maintaining confidential sheets for the N.G.Os.

* 259 Q.—SRI G. RAMA RAO: Will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to state whether there is any proposal with the Government to abolish the present system of maintaining confidential and conduct sheets for the non-gazetted officers?

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—"There is no such proposal under consideration."

SRI G. RAMA RAO:—"In view of the fact that there is every scope for officers to ride rough-shod over their subordinates and to ill-treat them at their whims and fancies, and to mar them if they refuse to do any favour for their own caste-men and favourites at the expense of others, with the help of the system of maintaining

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confidential and conduct sheets and also as this was a method adopted by an alien Government to suit the running of their own slave rule in India, will the Government abolish this immediately in the interest of 6 lakhs of public servants? "

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member is making a speech. Let the hon. Member put it in the form of a question."

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—"I do not accept the thesis of the hon. Member. Subordinate officials have a chance to get promoted and make similar remarks."

SRI C. V. K. RAO:—"Are the non-gazetted officers made aware of the remarks recorded against them and are their explanations also recorded? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—"Yes, Sir. When any adverse remark is entered, which remark if communicated will produce some improvement, it is an established rule that it is communicated to the officer concerned and his explanation is received and looked into."

SRI R. KRISHNAN:—"Have the Government received any memorandum in this connexion from the non-gazetted officers and if so, what steps have been taken on that memorandum? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—"Sir, I am not able to say now whether a particular memorandum of this kind has been received. But I have already stated that it is absolutely essential to keep such records."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"The Hon. the Chief Minister was pleased to say that adverse remarks are being communicated to the officers concerned. As the Hon. the Chief Minister, in the course of his dealing with service appeals, must have come across many cases where these remarks have not been communicated, will he be pleased to give instructions to officers to strictly adhere to that rule? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—"Sir, I have come across many cases where the remarks are communicated. I have studied the rules and they are good and proper and I have reiterated and reaffirmed those rules even before this question was put."

SRI S. DEIVASIGAMANY:—"May I know, Sir, whether the remarks, adverse or favourable, affect the promotion of non-gazetted officers without taking into consideration their seniority? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—"Yes, Sir. Most certainly. Good remarks go in their favour and bad remarks go against them. Where a remark is about a temperament or things like that, which cannot be altered, they are not communicated because they cannot be corrected."

SRI S. C. C. ANTHONY PILLAI:—"Have any adverse remarks been entered in the sheets of those non-gazetted officers who participated in the strike of 1945? "

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THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—"That was a general strike and no remark need be entered in the particular dossier."

Grant of lands to Harijans in Malabar.

* 260 Q.—SRI M. CHADAYAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state whether the Government have passed orders to assign 15 cents of land to each and every Harijan family in Malabar?

THE HON. DR. M. V. KRISHNA RAO:—"The Government have ordered that house-sites be granted at the rate of 15 cents for every Harijan family only in Malabar district, but this concession is restricted to those who have no legal rights to the house-sites under their occupation and who are houseless."

SRI C. V. K. RAO:—"Do Government grant any loans for building houses on those house-sites that have been granted?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"What has that to do with assignment of lands to Harijan families?"

SRI M. JAGANNATHAN:—"May I know, Sir, how many Harijan families have been benefited by this Government Order so far?"

THE HON. DR. M. V. KRISHNA RAO:—"I want notice, Sir."

SRI K. VINAYAKAM:—"Will the Hon. Minister be pleased to tell us whether this order to assign 15 cents of land to each and every Harijan family is a peculiar favour conferred upon the Harijans in Malabar alone or whether this order is applicable to all Harijans living in the State?"

THE HON. DR. M. V. KRISHNA RAO:—"This assignment of 15 cents of land is peculiar to Malabar district alone. The need for enhancing the extent to 15 cents has arisen as there is no cheri system in Malabar and as the extent of the lands under the occupation of the Harijans is more than the limit of 5 cents fixed in the case of dry lands."

10-50
a.m.

JANAB K. M. SEETHI:—"May I know when the order was passed?"

THE HON. DR. M. V. KRISHNA RAO:—"In G.O. No. 1409, dated 31st December 1951, the Government issued the order."

DR. K. B. MENON:—"In distributing the lands, will the Government see that no new cheris are created?"

THE HON. DR. M. V. KRISHNA RAO:—"There is no possibility of cheris being created."

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Extending the period of repayment of agricultural loans.

* 261 Q.—SRI B. LAKSHMINARASA RAJU: Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) why the Government extended the period of repayment of agricultural loans given for cyclone relief to certain villages in West Godavari district from 5 years to 10 years; and

(b) whether the Government propose to extend the concession to other villages in the district also affected by failure of crops and fall in prices this year?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER:—

“(a) No such orders have been issued by the Government.

“(b) Does not arise.”

SRI T. NAGI REDDI:—“Sir, I have to make a request. This question has been put by a Member who does not know English and he wants to put supplementary questions. But the answer has been given in English. For his benefit and for the benefit of other hon. Members, the answer has to be translated into Telugu.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“I have no objection if some hon. Member translates.”

SRI T. NAGI REDDI:—“(a) తుపాను వల్ల ఎప్పుడైనా వ్యవసాయదారుల ఓచ్చిత ఆస్థులను తీర్పు గడువు పొందుగల విషయముగా ప్రభుత్వమువారు ఎటువంటి ఉత్తరువులు జారీ చేయలేదు.

“(b) వైకారిణిమువలన ఎలా ప్రశ్నకు తావు లేదు.”

SRI C. V. K. RAO:—“What is the amount of the loans granted and how many people were granted these?”

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER:—“The question is about extension of time for the repayment of agricultural loans. I cannot give offhand the amount, etc.”

SRI B. LAKS. MINAR'SA RAJU:—“సర్కారులకు తాలూకాలో కొన్ని గ్రామాలలో ఆలాంటి సదుపాయాలు చేశారు. ఆలాగే మిగతా గ్రామాలలో కూడా అట్టి సదుపాయాలు చేస్తారా?”

SRI T. NAGI REDDI:—“In Narasapur taluk, a few villages have been given extension of time. The hon. Member wants to know whether the benefit will be extended to other villages in the district.”

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER:—“I do not know whether Narasapur taluk is in West Godavari district.

“No order extending the period of repayment of loans has been issued. Therefore, the question of extending the benefit does not arise.”

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SRI T. VISWANATHAM :—“ May I tell the Hon. the Revenue Minister that he has given one of the most enlightening answers in saying that he does not know whether Narasapur taluk is in West Godavari district? ”

House allowance to municipal staff.

* 262 Q.—**SRI K. P. GOPALAN** : Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state whether there is a Government order stating that the menial staff working in municipalities cannot be given housing allowance?

THE HON. SRI N. SANKARA REDDI :—“ Yes. The Municipal Councils of Madurai, Tirupati and Tuticorin have been permitted as a special case to grant house-rent allowance to their conservancy menials.”

SRI K. P. GOPALAN :—“ Is there any proposal before the Government to cancel the Government Order in question and give house-rent allowance to the menial staff working in municipalities? ”

THE HON. SRI N. SANKARA REDDI :—“ There is no such proposal at present.”

SRI K. GOVINDA RAO :—“ What are the special conditions existing in Tirupati and other places where the Government have permitted the grant of house-rent allowance? ”

THE HON. SRI N. SANKARA REDDI :—“ The municipal councils concerned gave the reasons and asked for permission to pay the allowance, and the Government permitted them.”

SRI V. V. RAMASAMI :—“ If other municipal councils ask for permission to grant house-rent allowance to their menial staff, will the Government give them permission? ”

THE HON. SRI N. SANKARA REDDI :—“ If any request comes from any municipal council, it will be considered on individual merits.”

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU :—“ May I know whether house-rent allowance will be given only to officials including Ministers and not to menials? ”

MR. SPEAKER :—“ The main question is about the grant of house-rent allowance to the menial staff of municipalities.”

THE HON. SRI N. SANKARA REDDI :—“ Menials such as sweepers, scavengers, washermen, gardeners, etc., are paid from contingencies on the basis of market rates. Incremental scales of pay are not allowed to them.”

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Amount collected by the P.C.C. Societies in Malabar.

* 263 Q.—SRI P. K. GOPALAKRISHNAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state whether it is a fact that about 7 lakhs of rupees were collected by producers-cum-consumers co-operative societies of Ponnani taluk, Malabar district, in excess of the scheduled prices of rice in the year 1949; and that the above fund was taken possession of by the Government?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM:—“A sum of Rs. 6,27,936-9-3 was collected during 1947-48 by certain producers-cum-consumers co-operative societies in Ponnani taluk, Malabar district, due to the wrong fixation of the release price of imported rice received from 21st August 1947. Out of this amount, a sum of Rs. 23,299-2-9 was adjusted towards the loss sustained by the Producer-cum-Consumer Co-operative Society, Ponnani, and the balance of Rs. 6,04,637-6-6 was recovered and earmarked for the construction of a bridge at Chettuvayi on the Kuthungal Ala Road in Malabar district.”

SRI P. K. GOPALAKRISHNAN:—“May I know when the Government will take up the construction of the bridge at Chettuvayi and the metalling of the Kuthungal Ala Road?”

MR. SPEAKER:—“The main question is about the amount collected by producers-cum-consumers co-operative societies in Malabar.”

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM:—“The matter is under investigation and it will be taken up as soon as the investigation is over.”

DR. K. B. MENON:—“As, by the abolition of food control, a source of income to the producers-cum-consumers co-operative societies is removed, have the Government any plan for the effective use of the huge accumulated funds of the societies?”

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM:—“I am afraid this is too a general question and it does not in any way relate to the main question put here.”

Representations received from the Madras Electricity Department Operative Subordinate Service Association.

* 264 Q.—SRI S. RAMALINGAM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have received any representation addressed to the Minister for Public Works on or about 25th February 1952, from Madras Electricity Department Operative Subordinate Service Association regarding their grievances; and

(b) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE HON. SRI N. RANGA REDDI:—“(a) No, but a copy of a representation addressed to the Chief Engineer for Electricity was received.

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“(b) The Chief Operation Engineer(?) have sent a reply to the Association, explaining the position in regard to the requests made in the representation.”

SRI S. RAMALINGAM:—“Will the Government meet the representatives of the Association to discuss the grievances and do something?”

THE HON. SRI N. RANGA REDDI:—“Some of the requests have been met, Sir.”

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—“The question was whether the Hon. Minister would be prepared to meet the representatives of the Association and that was not answered.”

THE HON. SRI N. RANGA REDDI:—“I have no objection to meet the representatives.”

SRI T. NAGI REDDI:—“May I know whether the Ministry or the Secretary to Government concerned has issued a circular to the effect that as the future plans are not going to be put into effect immediately, there may be retrenchment, and has called for the names of those that could be retrenched?”

THE HON. SRI N. RANGA REDDI:—“Notice, Sir.”

SRI V. R. NAGARAJAN:—“Does this Association cover any gazetted officers of the Electricity Department?”

THE HON. SRI N. RANGA REDDI:—“Notice, Sir.”

Representations re the death of the under-trial prisoners in Chirakkal taluk.

* 265 Q.—SRI T. C. NARAYANA NAMBIAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Law be pleased to state—

(a) whether any representations or complaints were received by the Government regarding the death in May 1950 of under-trial prisoners, Rairu Nambiar, Kuttiappa and Gopalan of Kayaralam village of Chirakkal taluk; and

(b) whether the Government made any enquiry into those representations or complaints, if not, why?

THE HON. SRI K. P. KUTTIKRISHNAN NAYAR:—
“(a) No.

“(b) Does not arise.”

SRI T. C. NARAYANA NAMBIAR:—“Does the Hon. Minister know that the following three lists were entrusted to the Inspector of Police of the locality by the Secretary of the Producer-cum-Consumer Co-operative Society, Mullapadu:—

(1) list of persons to be shot,

(2) list of persons to be arrested and cases foisted upon, and

(3) list of persons to be followed up and kept under surveil-

lance,

and that these three people were shot according to that list?”

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THE HON. SRI K. P. KUTTIKRISHNAN NAYAR:—

“The Government are aware of this only that Rairu Nambiar and Kuttiappa were released on bail on 4th May 1950 and Gopalan on 8th April 1950.”

SRI K. P. GOPALAN:—“Are the Government aware that the people of Chirakkal taluk, North Malabar, have lost confidence in the *bona fides* of the Government after the murder of these three peasant leaders by the Police? Is the power to murder persons at will given to the Police even now? Will the Government be prepared to constitute a non-official enquiry committee to enquire into the incident?”

THE HON. SRI K. P. KUTTIKRISHNAN NAYAR:—

“The Government are not aware of any such thing. They cannot institute an enquiry into an incident which happened some two or three years back. It may lead to unfortunate consequences.”

SRI T. NAGI REDDI:—“In view of the insistent representations that are being made by the people in this matter, I am really surprised at the answer given. May I ask the Hon. Minister to tell us when they were released on bail? What happened to those people who were released on bail? Will the Government really enquire into their cases and see whether these people have not been shot down by the Police, as has been alleged? I request the Hon. Minister to take this case at least into consideration and make enquiries.” 11 a.m.

THE HON. SRI K. P. KUTTIKRISHNAN NAYAR:—

“It is in respect of this case that I stated that the Government had documents to the effect that they were released on bail on 4th May 1950 and 8th April 1950.”

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—“Apart from the question of documents, does the Hon. Minister know from his other knowledge whether the men are alive or dead?”

THE HON. SRI K. P. KUTTIKRISHNAN NAYAR:—

“My personal knowledge does not count here. I do not know anything about them. We have made reasonable enquiries, and I have given the answer.”

SRI T. C. NARAYANA NAMBIAR:—“In view of the fact that the prisoners, who were said to be released on bail from Cannanore Central Jail on 4th May 1950, were, within three hours of their release, shot by the Police, will the Hon. Minister be kind enough to institute an enquiry?”

THE HON. SRI K. P. KUTTIKRISHNAN NAYAR:—

“Mere allegations, Sir.”

SRI T. C. NARAYANA NAMBIAR:—“We are prepared to prove, Sir.”

SRI T. NAGI REDDI:—“I cannot take it, Sir . . .”

MR. SPEAKER:—“Order, order.”

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THE HON. SRI K. P. KUTTIKRISHNAN NAYAR:—
“ Mere allegations or repetitions here will be of no use. We have done what could be done, and I have given the answer.”

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—“ May I draw the attention of the Hon. Speaker to the last question put by the hon. Member Mr. Narayana Nambiar? He said that after the prisoners were bailed out, they were shot. That was the statement he made. In the previous question the allegation was that they were not bailed out, but they were shot. The last question is that they were bailed out, and somebody shot them. And when? Some years back. The Minister has already answered the question of shooting. To ask for an enquiry as to the murder which is alleged to have happened so many years back, I submit, is very unreasonable, at any rate, in an interpellation.”

SRI T. C. NARAYANA NAMBIAR:—“ Sir, the Hon. the Chief Minister has misquoted me, and a misapprehension has arisen. Will the Hon. Speaker be kind enough to give a chance for the particular Member who put the question to clear the position? A misunderstanding has arisen consequent upon the interpretation put by the Treasury Benches. The whole thing will be proved. (Interruption.) Sir, these prisoners, it is stated, were released on bail. But the fact is, I assert, that no relatives or friends of these prisoners ever knew that they were released. The fact is that the then Inspector—I am prepared to prove this—at the point of bayonet threatened one T. C. Govindan Nambiyar that if he did not affix his signature” (Interruption.)

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—“ Sir, is it an interpellation or a supplementary question? I submit that hon. Members may have a very good case that a certain murder was committed some years ago. They are entitled to give a complaint about it in the ordinary way. But how can Ministers answer interpellations based on such allegations without any enquiry? ”

SRI P. G. KARUTHIRUMAN:—“ Is it not a fact, Sir, that the prisoners, who are alleged to have been shot dead, are still being searched for by the Police? ”

THE HON. SRI K. P. KUTTIKRISHNAN NAYAR:—
“ When they have been released it is not the business of the Police to enquire about their whereabouts.”

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—“ Sir, the Hon. the Chief Minister was pleased to say that it was an unreasonable request for an enquiry in the course of interpellations. May I draw his attention to part (b) of the question? Part (b) of the question is,—

‘ (b) whether the Government made any enquiry into those representations or complaints, if not, why? ’

The Hon. the Minister for Jails said that it would serve no purpose. May I ask the Hon. the Chief Minister, in view of the statements made from this side of the House, whether it would not serve public interests better if the Government undertake an enquiry? ”

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THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—"It is no use mixing up matters. I crave the hon. the Leader of the Opposition to be more reasonable. The question was put to the Minister concerned whether he made enquiries into any representations, and the Minister has answered the question. He has given his own conclusion. Thereupon, allegations are made that there was a murder committed, and that the bailing out was an unreality and a falsehood. If any charge is involved in it, it is a charge of deliberate murder. With reference to the time and context, I say that a definite allegation should be made if an enquiry is to be made into the murder. It is not as if it is an administrative fault or error to be enquired into by the Government. Here is a case where it is alleged, according to the statements given, that one man or more men, were murdered deliberately and a false record was made that they were released on bail. Application should be made to another Department for an enquiry into the crime. If it is important and useful, I am prepared to make any reasonable enquiry. But I point out that it happened, according to the statements, two years ago, as far as I understand it. A charge of murder cannot be rushed up from the Opposition Benches in the course of an interpellation like this."

SRI T. NAGI REDDI:—"Sir, this is an important question, and hence I rise to put another question. The question is that a definite charge is made by Members of this House and by the people outside, in the form of representations, that such and such a thing had happened, and whether the Government will enquire into the complaint. The House has received the reply from the Hon. Minister that an enquiry would not serve any purpose. Simply because the people are saying and reiterating that those prisoners had been shot dead by the Police, it is the incumbent duty of the Government to enquire into the charge to see whether the Police have done what they are alleged to have done. I request the Government over and over again that at least on this one simple issue the Government should give us an assurance that they will enquire into the incident, and, if the allegation is proved to be true, they will really take action against the Inspector of Police."

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—"I want hon. Members who are so earnest about it to put the matter clearly in writing and give it to me. I shall see whether any enquiry is called for, and, if called for, how it should be made. Even now I am not able to understand whether it is said that their bodies were found with bullets in them, or that the men are not heard of, or that they have gone underground, or whether it is on suspicion that the charge of murder is made. Do they say that their bodies were found with lead in them, or is it stated that they are not heard about, and, therefore, they infer that those prisoners are shot dead? I want to know what exactly the allegation is."

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11-10
a.m.

SRI T. C. NARAYANA NAMBIAR:—"The fact is this. The dead bodies were found . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The Hon. the Chief Minister said that if the hon. Member would put it in writing and give it to him, he would make an enquiry into the matter. Now, I pass on to the next question."

Relief measures for Thirumayam and Kolathur taluks.

* 266 Q.—SRI R. M. PALANIAPPAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state what steps the Government have taken to relieve the famine conditions in Thirumayam and Kolathur taluks, Tiruchirappalli district?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER:—

"Ninety-seven Minor Irrigation Works and 68 Rural Water Supply works are in progress in the two taluks. A sum of Rs. 3,40,550 has been disbursed as loans since 1st April 1951 in Thirumayam taluk and Rs. 2,39,410 in Kolathur taluk. Land Revenue remission on a liberal scale has been sanctioned and collection of loan instalments and cesses has been postponed. The Military Authorities have been requested to sink drinking water wells to relieve water scarcity."

Application of Shop Assistants Act to hospitals and dispensaries.

* 267 Q.—SRI M. RAJESWARA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state whether the Shops and Establishments Act, 1947, has been extended to hospitals and dispensaries?

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO:—"No, Sir. The Act does not apply to hospitals and dispensaries attached to doctors' consulting rooms as they have been permanently exempted by the Government from all the provisions of the Act."

SRI M. RAJESWARA RAO:—"In view of the fact that nurses and compounders employed in private hospitals and dispensaries are not paid their salaries regularly and reasonably, will the Government consider the desirability of extending the Act to private hospitals and dispensaries?"

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO:—"Sir, the Government are not aware of any such representations being made to them. But as these are essential services, the Government, when they framed the Act, thought that they should be exempted from the operation of the Act."

SRI S. C. C. ANTHONY PILLAI:—"Will the Government make an enquiry from the State Government of Bombay whether such an exemption has been granted in the Bombay State?"

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO:—"The matter will be considered."

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* 268 Q.—

SRI C. H. KANARAN:—"I do not put the question, Sir, because of the information I have already got."

Allotment of lands on the banks of Romperu Drainage Canal.

* 269 Q.—SRI PRAGADA KOTAIHAH: Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) what is the total number of acres of waste land lying both on east and west of the Romperu Drainage Canal in Guntur district; and

(b) how many acres of that land were assigned to political sufferers and whether they are being cultivated by them?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER:—" (a) & (b) The Government have no information in the matter, but have called for the same from the Collector and his reply is awaited."

SRI V. SRI KRISHNA:—"Is it a fact that 80 persons who are cultivators in that area have been arrested in the last two weeks to assist the political sufferers to take possession of the lands cultivated by the landless poor under the Grow More Food Campaign for the last ten to fifteen years or even more?"

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER:—"As the information called for has not yet come, I am unable to answer the question."

SRI K. R. SAMBANDAM:—"May I ask whether these lands could not be assigned to landless labourers in the Guntur district?"

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER:—"Landless labourers are being given preference in the matter of assignment."

SRI V. SRI KRISHNA:—"In view of the fact that the assignments are temporary as most of the assignees are not *bona fide* political sufferers and as the transfer of the possession of lands to the political sufferers was done only on paper and that too by issuing section 144 orders and mass arrests, will the Government cancel the temporary assignments and appoint a non-official committee to go into the matter and advise them?"

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER:—"If it is only a question of paper assignment, that defect will certainly be rectified."

Representations from the copyists in Judicial department.

* 270 Q.—SRI K. KRISHNA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Law be pleased to state whether representations have been received from the copyists in Judicial department to pay house rent allowance and increase their basic salary, and if so, what action was taken on the representations?

THE HON. SRI K. P. KUTTIKRISHNAN NAYAR:—"Yes. The representations are still under consideration."

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* 271 Q.—

SRI T. ANANTHA PAI :—“ I do not put the question, Sir.”

Fair price shop for Coondapoor taluk.

* 272 Q.—SRI Y. MANJAYA SHETTY: Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have received any representations from the poor people of Gangolli and other places of Coondapoor taluk to increase the quantity of ration of rice issued in fair price shops; and

(b) if so, what action the Government have taken in the matter?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—“(a) No.

“(b) Does not arise.”

Admission into Engineering Colleges.

* 272-A Q.—SRI S. SWAYAMPRAKASAM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have appointed any Committee for Engineering Colleges to select students for admission;

(b) if the answer to the above is in the affirmative, whether the Government have issued detailed instructions to the Committee to be followed in the method of selecting students;

(c) whether the Government have changed or modified the instructions in force last year; and

(d) if so, what are the reasons for the same?

THE HON. DR. M. V. KRISHNA RAO (on behalf of the Hon. Minister for Public Works):—“ I am placing a statement^a on the table of the House giving full details in answer to the question.”

* SRI S. SWAYAMPRAKASAM :—“ So far as the students belonging to the backward communities are concerned, I understand that in the last year's instructions, the words ‘ not less than 25 per cent ’ were used. This year I find the words ‘ not less than ’ have been taken away. Is it with a view to restrict the number of students belonging to the backward communities so far as admissions are concerned? ”

THE HON. DR. M. V. KRISHNA RAO :—“ In the instructions of last year, the words ‘ not less than 25 per cent ’ were vague and indefinite. The present instructions are clear and convey the intention with which that regulation was made. Anything not less than 25 may mean 50, 100, 150 or even 200.”

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN :—“ May I ask the Hon. Minister, Sir, whether over and above the 25 per cent of seats allotted to backward community candidates, students belonging to those communities can be selected on the basis of merit? If so, will the Hon. Minister give instructions to allow the students belonging to the backward communities and the Harijan community to compete first

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for the 60 per cent of the seats allowed for open competition and then to select candidates from these communities for filling up the 25 per cent and 15 per cent of the seats reserved for them?"

THE HON. DR. M. V. KRISHNA RAO:—"By the present arrangement members of the Backward Classes and Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, after getting 25 per cent and 15 per cent of the seats respectively, are not precluded from competing for further seats on merit from the general pool of 60 per cent. In case there is a lesser number than 25 per cent from among the original list of names, the committee takes further names and brings it up to 25 per cent. But over and above the 25 per cent, if there are candidates, they are allowed to compete for seats on the basis of merit. There is no need for any apprehension in this matter."

SRI K. VINAYAKAM:—"Sir, my question is going to be straightforward (laughter) and I request the Hon. Minister to give me an answer in clear and unambiguous language. The selection for 60 per cent of the seats must first be made on merit and in that selection, members of the Backward Classes and Scheduled Castes must be allowed to take their chances. Later on, the selection of Backward Class and Scheduled Caste students should be made for the 25 per cent and 15 per cent of the seats allowed to them. May I know whether the selection is made in this order? I want a categorical answer from the Hon. Minister."

THE HON. DR. M. V. KRISHNA RAO:—"If I should give a categorical answer, I have to make a longer statement. But I may say the question has been gone into and there are alternative ways of carrying out the instructions given to the Committee. The Committee is given the discretion to choose the method. But in every one of these alternative methods that have been worked out, the fact is that over and above the 25 per cent and 15 per cent of the seats, members of the respective classes have got the opportunity to be selected on the basis of merit."

SRI S. T. ADITYAN:—"Sir, it has been stated that this year a maximum of 50 marks has been fixed for activities in sports, the National Cadet Corps, etc. Is it correct that last year it was 150?"

THE HON. DR. M. V. KRISHNA RAO:—"There was no figure specified in the instructions of last year."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—"From the answer given I find that there is a conflict between the view expressed by the Hon. the Chief Minister and that expressed by the Hon. the Education Minister, with regard to the selection of Backward Class and Scheduled Caste candidates over and above the 25 per cent and 15 per cent of the seats allowed to them. If the selection to the reserved seats is first made, then the students who have got good marks will be selected. Then, what is the use of allowing the remaining students who might not have got good marks, to compete for seats from the general pool?"

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THE HON. DR. M. V. KRISHNA RAO:—“ In the first place, there is no conflict at all between the assurance given by the Hon. the Chief Minister the other day on the floor of this House and the statement that I have made. As I have already stated, if necessary, the Committees will be contacted and the point will be clarified. But there is no need for further clarification from the viewpoint of the Government. The Government are certain that over and above the reservation of 25 per cent and 15 per cent of the seats, members belonging to the communities under reference have got the opportunity to get seats on the basis of merit from the general pool ”

SRI A. APPU:—“ May I know whether these instructions are applicable to the Engineering Colleges at Coimbatore, Karaikudi and Annamalaiagar? If so, may I know whether these instructions have been communicated to these institutions also? ”

THE HON. DR. M. V. KRISHNA RAO:—“ These rules are applicable to Government Colleges. The aided colleges are given instructions to see that these regulations are followed.”

11-20 SRI S. RAMASWAMI NAIDU:—“ In view of the fact that the selection of 60 per cent of the candidates is made purely on merit, will the Hon. Minister consider the justness of allowing all the candidates in the first instance to compete in the general pool on merit and then fill up the seats reserved for Backward Community candidates? ”

THE HON. DR. M. V. KRISHNA RAO:—“ Sir, it will be seen that the assurances now given by me and those given by the Hon. the Chief Minister previously in this matter are implemented and it will also be seen that there is no difficulty in the matter.”

SRI S. CHELLA PANDIAN:—“ From the answer I find that 50 marks will be allotted for sports, extra curricular activities, etc. Is it a fact that this discretion was unfettered last year? This year, the marks have been fixed as 50 and thereby the Committee's discretion has been restricted. Is it not a fact that more than 70 M.L.As. have represented to the Government in the form of a letter that these restrictions should be removed immediately and, if so, may I know whether the Government will take suitable action immediately? ”

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—“ The suggestion last made is that unfettered discretion should be given to the Committee to add or subtract any number of marks and dispose of the candidates. If there is no limit placed with reference to the discretion as to the extra-curricular activities, it really means that the Committee is asked to do whatever it likes. We have given a certain quantum for guidance, and, if the Committee finds any difficulty in the matter and also

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with respect to many other points raised now as to the procedure to be adopted in order to give effect to the instructions given, it is necessary that we will have to discuss the whole thing with the Committee. I am taking up more time than I should during question-time, as I really desire to explain the matter. The Committee's work is private and we are not in it. We do not intervene and we do not know how it proceeds in carrying out the instructions. It is, therefore, difficult for us to answer in reply to questions now as to what procedure the Committee is following. This being the case, I want hon. Members to accept this. When the Committee has finished its work—it is three-quarter way or half-way, I do not know—we shall go, in consultation with it into the issues raised by the hon. Members."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—"Sir, the information given in the printed answer and the replies given by the Hon. the Chief Minister and the Hon. the Education Minister to the various supplementary questions are not at all satisfactory. This question affects a large population of the State, viz., Harijans, Backward Communities and Non-Brahmans. In order to make our point clear and in order to express our feelings on this matter, I would like to impress on you, Sir, that we must have a half-hour debate on this subject."

MR. SPEAKER:—"We are going to discuss the Appropriation Bill to-morrow. The hon. Member may speak on this subject to-morrow, if he wants. So, I am not going to allow a half-hour debate to-day."

Travelling allowance drawn by the Hon. the Chief Minister for his tour in Coimbatore district.

* 272-B Q.—**SRI T. NAGI REDDI:** Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) the amount of travelling allowance paid to the Chief Minister for his recent tour in Coimbatore district; and

(b) the cost of police bandobust and the travelling allowance for the retinue of officers who attended on the Chief Minister?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM:—" (a) Rs. 141-3-0.

" (b) The expenditure on police bandobust was Rs. 482-4-6. The expenditure for the Chief Minister's personal staff was Rs. 249-13-0."

SRI T. NAGI REDDI:—"May I know whether the police bandobust was extra police bandobust for the Chief Minister or was it only ordinary bandobust as is generally given to the other Ministers?"

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM:—"It was a bandobust for the Chief Minister."

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Clearing up of silted wet lands in Kothapalam village.

* 272-C Q.—SRI K. KRISHNA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that wet lands of Kothapalam and Kota villages in Gudur taluk, Nellore district, were silted up in 1918, due to floods of Challakalva; and

(b) whether it is a fact that wet assessment is nevertheless being collected from holders of lands in clause (a) from fasli 1329?

• THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER:—“(a) & (b) Due to floods in Challakalva in 1918, 50 acres of wet lands in Kota village and 60 acres in Kothapalam village were silted up with sand and had become unfit for raising wet crops. On the representation made by the ryots of Kothapalam in the year 1941, an extent of 40 acres of the silted wet land in that village was transferred to dry. The remaining extent of 20 acres in Kothapalam and the extent of 50 acres in Kota still remain registered as wet lands. As these lands are being treated as mamul wastes, wet assessment is collected on them.”

SRI K. KRISHNA RAO:—“Am I to understand that the assessment is collected on absolutely waste lands and is not in any way connected with the supply of water to that particular land?”

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER:—“The consideration is that when a land is classified as mamul waste, a particular rate of tax is collected. I may inform the hon. Member that the ryots of these villages have agreed to reclaim these lands by the use of tractors and bulldozers on the usual hire basis and that is being attended to.”

Vigilance Committees.

* 272-D Q.—SRI S. NARAYANAPPA: Will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

(a) what are the functions and constitution of vigilance committees; and

(b) how many vigilance committees have been formed in Anantapur district and how many are to be formed yet?

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—“(a) For watch specially at nights in view of apprehended danger from non-law-abiding groups.

“(b) The Government have called for information.”

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—“May I know who those non-law-abiding groups are?”

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—“Those who do not abide by law, Sir.”

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Opening of neera parlours in South Kanara district.

* 272-E Q.—SRI Y. MANJAYA SHETTY: Will the Hon. the Minister for Prohibition be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have received any recommendation recently from the South Kanara District Prohibition Advisory Committee for opening of neera parlours at least one in each taluk of the district; and

(b) if so, when action will be taken accordingly?

THE HON. SRI V. C. PALANISWAMI GOUNDER:—“(a) Yes, Sir.

“(b) The matter is under consideration.”

Tuberculosis Hospital, Pudukkottai.

* 272-F Q.—SRI V. BALAKRISHNAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state—

(a) whether a fund called the Tuberculosis Fund existed in the premerger Pudukkottai;

(b) if so, how much; and

(c) whether the Government have any proposal to construct a separate Tuberculosis Hospital in Pudukkottai?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—“(a) The answer is in the affirmative.

“(b) Rs. 84,000 in Government promissory notes 3 per cent 1963-65 plus the accrued interest thereon.

“(c) The answer is in the negative.”

SRI T. NAGI REDDI:—“Before you call the next question, which stands in my name, I would like to make a submission. If the Hon. Minister is going to say that he has no information and that he has to get information from the district officers, then he may give that answer and we may dispose of this question. But in case he has received some information from the officers, I would like this question to be postponed to to-morrow, as it is a very important question.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“I shall take up this question to-morrow. Now, let me take up the next question, namely, question No. 272-H.

SRI T. NAGI REDDI:—“Sir, the Hon. Minister says that he has no information on the previous question, viz., No. 272-G. So, we can dispose of that question even to-day.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“Then, the hon. Member says that the question need not be postponed to to-morrow?”

SRI T. NAGI REDDI:—“Yes, Sir, it need not be postponed to to-morrow.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“I have no objection.”

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Representations received from Sri Chinna Ramanna regarding allotment of land.

* 272-G Q.—SRI T. NAGI REDDI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government have received many applications in the year 1949 from Sri Chinna Ramanna, son of Ellanur Narasappa (ex-service man) of Anantapur taluk regarding a land which had been assigned to him near Kakkalapalli village by the Collector;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Government over-ruling his petition had assigned the land to certain political sufferers; and

(c) whether the Government have received any petition from the said ex-service man this year, and if so, the action taken thereon?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER:—“(a) to (c) The Government have no information in the matter but have called for the same from the Collector and the Board of Revenue and their replies are awaited.”

Nominations to the Rayalaseema Development Board.

11-30
a.m.

* 272-H Q.—SRI K. KRISHNA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state the principles on which nominations of non-officials were made to the Rayalaseema Development Board?

THE HON. SRI N. RANGA REDDI:—“The non-official element of the Rayalaseema Development Board consists of 5 members of either House of the Legislature (one from each of the five Rayalaseema districts), five members of the public (one from each of those districts), and not more than five members of the State from among those who are actively interested in the development of the Rayalaseema districts. Nominations of the non-official members of the Board have been made with reference to the suitability of the persons to represent the views of the public of the Rayalaseema districts and also the needs of those districts.”

SRI K. KRISHNA RAO:—“While the Transport Committees have been cleared of non-official elements, may I know whether it is a fact that the non-official element in this particular Board is being continued only in order to give a berth to some of the Congressmen who have lost the confidence of the people and who have lost in the recent elections?”

THE HON. SRI N. RANGA REDDI:—“No, Sir.”

Opening of a Livestock Farm in Nandyal taluk.

* 272-I Q.—SRI M. SUBBA REDDI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(a) at what stage the opening of a Livestock Farm in Nandyal taluk in Kurnool district is;

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(b) whether the scheme is included in the Five-year Plan and if not, why not;

(c) how many schemes were sanctioned and executed in the State after this scheme was proposed;

(d) how many acres of private land have been acquired; when and at what cost and how many acres of Government land also are set apart for the purpose;

(e) what the Government intend doing with the land as the scheme is not executed;

(f) what the estimated loss to the Government is; and

(g) whether the scheme is intended only to develop a live-stock farm or includes poultry and sheep rearing also and what the total estimated cost of the scheme is?

THE HON. DR. R. NAGAN GOUDA:—“(a) The proposal to set up a Livestock Farm in the Kurnool district has been deferred in view of the difficult ways and means position of the Government.

“(b) No, Sir. The scheme was not originally proposed by the Director of Animal Husbandry for inclusion in the Five-year Plan.

“(c) It is presumed that the Member refers to schemes for the establishment of livestock farms. Five such schemes were sanctioned after a livestock farm for Kurnool district was proposed.

“(d) An extent of 285 acres of private lands was acquired at a cost of Rs. 49,430 in May 1951. In addition, an extent of 104 acres of Government land was ordered to be set apart for the farm.

“(e) Pending the establishment of the Farm, orders have been issued to lease out the lands acquired for the farm.

“(f) No loss is anticipated as the lessees will pay rent.

“(g) The scheme is for the improvement of cattle only. The scheme is estimated to cost about Rs. 8 lakhs in the aggregate.”

SRI M. SUBBA REDDI:—“May I know whether the scheme is going to be taken up at least under the Community Projects Schemes, as the site is situated near the K.C. Canal?”

THE HON. DR. R. NAGAN GOUDA:—“The area under K.C. Canal comes under the Community Projects Scheme. If the area in question comes within that, it will certainly be included in the Community Projects Schemes.”

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[Note.—An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.]

II.—VOTING ON DEMANDS FOR GRANTS FOR THE YEAR 1952-53—*cont.*

(1) DEMAND VII—GENERAL SALES TAX AND OTHER TAXES AND DUTIES—*cont.*

MR. SPEAKER:—“ I reduce the time-limit for hon. Members who want to speak on this Demand. I fix five minutes for each speaker as the number of speakers is very large.”

JANAB K. M. SEETHI:—“ Mr. Speaker, Sir, in the course of the discussion on this Demand, I wish to bring to the notice of the Government certain hardships experienced by the public, as a result of the present administration of the Sales Tax Department, particularly by that class of persons who are troubled in the matter of collections. As far as the equity and the desirability of having the sale tax in the State are concerned, even the Mover of the Cut Motion has conceded that sales tax has come to stay and that there is no point in protesting against the continuance of the tax. As a matter of fact, he could not help making that remark because no civilized country in the world has banned this tax. Even a State like Soviet Russia has got a system of sales tax which gives a very huge revenue and constitutes almost the main source of revenue for that State. But in its administration, our State has got a duty to perform and that is to remove the hardships experienced by the public as a result of it.

“ As far as the fish curers and fish merchants of Malabar are concerned, the operation of the Sales Tax Act has given rise to very great hardships. The fish curers in the Malabar district are in the position of producers of foodstuffs, and fish, as the Government know, is a very valuable foodstuff. Therefore, the fish curers and fish salesmen have to be given utmost protection in their dealings. Now the Government have fixed a sort of flat rate for the purpose of fixing the liability of the fish curers and certain varieties of fish are priced in such a way as to have no regard for the fluctuations in the market, especially the fall in the prices of fish in the present market. Invariably, sales tax is collected from the fish curers at certain scheduled rates laid down by the Government. This is causing great hardship and on days when the fish curers and the fish dealers get very poor prices for the stuff, they still have to pay sales tax on the basis of the scheduled rates laid down by the Government. The Fish Curers' Association and the representatives of fish dealers have made certain representations to the Government on this matter and it is my request to the Government that they should give sympathetic consideration to these representations and give some relief to these people.

“ With regard to petty dealers and merchants, representations have been made to the Government that the minimum limit for taxation should be raised from ten thousand rupees to twenty thousand rupees or at least those merchants who are now taxed for

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income between ten and twenty thousands should be given relief by way of a reduction in the tax. Sir, when the Act was passed in the year 1939, the prices of goods were much lower than what they are now and by the present rise in prices, even the very petty merchant is brought within the ambit of the Sales Tax Act. The shooting up of prices and the extraordinary rise now experienced, when the lower assessment limit still is ten thousand rupees, should be given some consideration so that the small traders may have some relief. The limit must be raised to twenty thousand rupees and if that is found impossible by the Government, at least some concession should be given by the Government to persons whose turnover is between ten and twenty thousand rupees. These are matters which the Government should sympathetically consider in order to give relief to the small merchants.

"I see that there is a good deal of discontent among the merchants as regards the *modus operandi* of the sales tax administration in the mufassal. The Sales Tax officers play ducks and drakes with the merchants and take all kinds of liberties with them. They freely enter the shops, take possession of the account books and walk away with them without any regard for the liberty or the freedom of the merchants which they are expected to enjoy. Such harassment should be stopped without any delay. Strict instructions should be given to the Sales Tax authorities that they should proceed according to rules and that they should not have unlicensed liberty to deal with the merchants in any manner they like. The merchants should be summoned to the office in the usual course and treated with courtesy and regard. These are matters where courtesy and consideration shown to merchants will not in any way put the Sales Tax Department to any loss. Well, the department stands to gain by courteous and polite behaviour on the part of its staff.

"I would once again request the Government to bear in mind the few facts I have brought to their notice and to see that matters are set right early."

* SRI M. CHINNATHAMBI THEVAR:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the Demand with great pleasure. In doing so, I want to say something about sales tax and other taxes that come under this Demand and also about the method of collection and other connected matters. As stated by the Hon. Minister, this Demand deals with all kinds of electricity accounts and other taxes, namely, sales tax, entertainments tax, betting tax, etc. Of these, sales tax is the most important one. It is a familiar tax in our State, and one that is being vehemently opposed by some sections of the people. 11-40 a.m.

"The introduction of sales tax synchronized with the introduction of Prohibition and as such some sort of relation exists between this tax and Prohibition. Sales tax came into existence to fill the void that was created in the revenues of the State by the introduction of Prohibition. Hence, this tax has got all the good and bad points of Prohibition. Just as the Prohibition policy

[Sri M. Chinnathambi Thevar]

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is being attacked by persons who have no concern or connection with those who are affected by the drink habit, so also this sales tax is criticised by persons who do not pay even a single pie as sales tax. In spite of the protests and in spite of continued propaganda that is carried on against Prohibition—thanks to the better judgment of the legislators and the firm resolve of the Hon. the Chief Minister in enforcing it—it has come to stay in our midst. So also sales tax, which is vociferously opposed by many sections of the people, has become a permanent tax. It has become an indispensable tax. It has also become a tax that brings a good income to our State, about a third of the revenue of this State. It would be suicidal if the Government were to take any steps to abolish this tax. On the other hand, Government might well take a bold step and abolish all other taxes and retain this sales tax with higher rates. I want that there should be only one tax in this country and that tax should affect all persons irrespective of the fact whether they are rich or poor. Sales tax is of this kind.

“It was said by an hon. Member that this tax was a monster. I say it is not at all a monster in the case of honest traders. It is certainly a monster in the case of dishonest traders who in the act of cheating the Government and the innocent people see a monster in the Act. I say our State owes a debt of gratitude to the Hon. the Chief Minister who introduced this tax which is being hailed as ‘Kamadhenu’ or ‘Kalpaka Vriksham’ by Hon. Ministers.

“I want to say a few words about the difficulties experienced by people in the administration of the Act. This tax can be collected easily and without any fuss and without recourse to the cumbersome procedure adopted by the Revenue Department for collection of land revenue. The methods adopted by the officers in charge of the Commercial Tax Department have made this an oppressive tax. Nowadays people have lost their fear for the policemen but they are terribly afraid of these Commercial Tax Officers. At the very sight of these officers, the traders disappear mysteriously with the result that these officers now travel *inognito*.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“The hon. Member's time is over. The hon. Member, Mr. Madanagopal, will now speak.”

* SRI V. MADANAGOPAL :—“கனம் சபாநாயகர் அவர்களே. இந்த மாண்புமிகுத் துறை கொண்டு வரப்பட்ட வெந்நீர் பரிசேனையை நான் ஆதரிக்கிறேன். இன்றைக்கு நம் மாகாணத்தில் இருக்கக்கூடிய விற்பனை வரியானது வேறு எந்த நாட்டிலும் இல்லாத கொடுமை நிறைந்த ஒரு மறை முகமான வரியாக இருக்கிறது. பொதுவாக வீட்டிற்கு வக்கூடிய ஒரு விற்பனையாக விலை கலந்து விலைக்கொடுப்பது பல் இடங்களிலும் இது சாதாரணமாக ரூபாய்க்க காலண வர் என்ற சொல்லுடன் இருந்து அந்த விலை காலணவிலிருந்து இரண்டாண்டு வரைக்கும் வசூலிக்கப்பட்டு வருகிறது. இப்பொழுது வேர்சடலையை எடுத்துக்கொண்டால் விவசாயிகளிடமிருந்து வேர்க்கடலையை வாங்குவதிலிருந்து சென்னை அன்னைபுரத்தில் வந்து போண்டாவாக வருவதற்கு வரவரைக்கும் பல இடங்களில் இவ்வாறு வரி வசூலிக்கப்படுகிறது இந்தமாதிரி பல இடங்களில் வரி போட்டுவதால் சாதாரணமாக பொது ஜனங்களை பாதிக்கக்கூடிய முறையில் இருப்பதால், இந்த முறையை மாற்றிவிட்டு விற்பனைவரியை ஒரே இடத்தில் வசூலிக்கும்படியான ஒரு

முறையைக் கொண்டு வரவேண்டும். அப். டிக் கொண்டு வருவதனால் பொருளாதா ததில் சர்க்காருக்கு நஷ்டம் ஏற்படும் என்று தோன்றினால் அதற்கு வேறு முறைகளைக் கையாள்ளலாம். அவ்விதம் நஷ்டம் ஏறா வதை வேறு ஆய்மையாக வாங்குகைக்காக வாங்கிய பணம் பொருள்களுக்கு அதிகப்படியான வரியை வசூலிக்கலாம். அதாவது Pleasure car, லைமர், தங்கம், வெள்ளி, Wrist watch, பட்டு, ரேடியோ, வாகனம் போன்றவை, ஏலம், க. பூ. ம. பே. ஏறவைகளுக்கு கணிசமான அளவில் ஒரு ஊட்டத்தில் வரிவிதித்து அந்த நஷ்டத்தைச் சரிக்கட்டிவிட முடியும்.

“சமீபத்தில் சர்க்கார் விற்பனை வரியிலிருந்து தப்பிக்கக் கூடியவர்களின் மேல் தீவிரமாக நடவடிக்கை எடுக்கப்படுவதாக உத்தரவிட இருக்கிறார்கள். முந்திய சர்க்கார் தீவிர கெள்முதல் உத்தரவுபோட்டு அதனால் பெரிய மிராசதாரர்கள் தப்பித் தவிர்த்துக் கொண்டிருந்திருந்தாலும், கையாடல் தான் இந்த விற்பனை வரியிலிருந்து வரியை மறைக்கவேண்டுமென்று ஒரு சில பெரிய வியாபாரிகள் தப்பித்தவர்களைப் போலவே இருக்கிறார்கள். அவர்கள் மாறுகின்றார்கள். தயாரித்து அதிலிருந்து தப்பித்தவர்களின் மூன்றைப் பங்குதான் சர்க்காரால் வசூலாகும். அப்போது மூன்று பங்கு வசூலாகவே முடிவாகிறது. அந்தத் தகுந்தபடி அவர்கள் இப்பொழுது சற்று உணர்ந்துகொண்டிருக்கிறார்கள். அதனால் என்ன நடக்கிறது. சிறிய வியாபாரிகளிடமிருந்து இண்டஸ்ட்ரீயல் வசூலாகிறார்கள். இதன்மீது மூன்று பங்குகளுக்கு மட்டும் என் சர்க்கார் வசூலாகிறார்கள். இதைப் பற்றி மூன்று பங்குக்கு மட்டும் உரிக்கொடுத்திருக்கிறார்கள். அதில் தவிர்த்து கடைகளுக்குள் நுழைந்து கோலில் அதிகரிப்பைப் போட்டுக் கொடுக்கிறார்கள் என்றும், அவ்விதம் பல சோதனைகளையும் நடத்தியிருக்கிறார்கள் என்றும் கூறியிருக்கிறார்கள்.

“இதைத்தவிர இந்த வரியைக் குறைக்கும் யெழும் ஒரு சில அதிகாரிகள் வியாபாரிகளுக்கு அதிகப்படியான தொந்தரவு கொடுக்கிறார்கள். கணயக் குற்றவாக நடத்தப்படுகிறார்கள். கணக்கு, பைப் பரிசீலனை, பலமுறை திருப்பி அனுப்பப்படுகிறது அவர்களை நிறைவேற்ற விசாரிக்கிறார்கள். வியாபாரி ரீடம் மரியாதைக்குறைவாக பேசப்படுகிறது. இந்தக் குறைகள் தடுக்கப்படவேண்டும். இப்பொழுது நம் மாகாணத்தில் ஸ்தல அல்லது தனிப்பட்டவர்கள் பொது கரியங்களுக்கு நிதி வசூல் செய்கிறார்கள். இந்த நிதி வசூல் செய்யும் பொழுது குறிப்பாக அதிகாரிகள் தங்களுடைய அதிகார தோஷனையில் நடக்கக்கூடாது என்பதே சர்க்காருடைய கொள்கை. அதாவது

[Sri V. Madanagopal]

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அதிகாரிகள் நிதிவசூல் செய்யப்போகலாம் போகும்போது அந்நேரத்தில் பாக்கிசுடாது என்று சொல்லப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. அப்படிச் சொல்வது எப்படி இருக்கிறதென்றால் பூனை, 'பாலை தண்ணீராக பாவிக் வேண்டும்' என்று சொல்வதுபோல் இருக்கிறது. சாதாரணமாக இந்த வருமானவரி அதிகாரிகள் இந்த நிதிக்குக்கூட வசூல் செய்யப் போகும்போது அவர்கள் ஒவ்வொரு கடைக்காரர்களிடமும் 50 ரூபாய், 100 ரூபாய்க்கு டிக்கட்டைகள் எழுதக் கொடுத்ததுவிட்டு வந்திருக்கிறார்கள். அதனால் இந்த சிறிய வியாபாரிகள் மிகவும் அதாந்தரவுப்படுகிறார்கள். இதை சர்க்கார் தடுக்க வேண்டும். இந்த விஷயங்களைப் பரிசீலனைசெய்ய சர்க்கார் ஒரு கமிட்டியை நியமிக்கவேண்டும்."

11-50
a.m.

* SRI V. V. RAMASAMI:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, when an hon. Member on this side described sales tax as a monster, it was objected to by one hon. Member on the other side. But in the course of his speech, the latter said that the people who were not afraid of the Police were afraid of the Commercial Tax officers. Therefore, Sir, he subscribed to the view that the machinery of collecting sales tax is working like a monster though he tried to refute it. When sales tax was first introduced in this State, the prices of commodities were very low; during the last 10 years the prices have risen by over four times. The Government are under the impression that even though there has been a slump in trade, the income from sales tax is not falling. Sir, I would like to point out, as many hon. Members have already said, that there are many leakages and merchants who deal in various commodities have recourse to other methods of evading payment of sales tax. I, therefore, suggest that the question of levying a single-point sales tax should be seriously considered by the Government. Further, match factories and various co-operative societies are claiming total exemption from the levy of sales tax. I wish to point out that groundnut and groundnut oil are very much affected by the levy of sales tax; I understand the groundnut merchants and oil dealers have also met the Hon. Minister and presented him with a memorandum asking for exemption from the levy of sales tax and the Hon. Minister is understood to have promised consideration. I would like to suggest, Sir, that a conference of the representatives of all the Chambers of Commerce, growers, merchants and co-operative institutions may be convened by the Hon. the Chief Minister to find out the real hardships and arrive at an amicable settlement. I am sure that no one is against the levy of sales tax. What we are very anxious about is that there should be no leakages at all. If an amicable settlement is arrived at, I am sure the present income from sales tax will be considerably increased. I would, therefore, request the Hon. the Chief Minister to convene the conference as early as possible. Thank you, Sir."

SRI M. GANGAPPA:—"அத்யட்ச, நேயுதாக்கு நமசி. பச்சுநகரம் சா
லாப ஜில்லா விலாண்டி அநாயும்கு வரவருகிறது. இதைச் சா
லாப நேயுதாக்கு விலாண்டி அக்டைட் கமிஷன் காண்பாடுகளை
கொண்ட பச்சுநகரம் வரவருகிறது. மீதி, கமிஷன் காண்பாடுகளை
1944 வ. பச்சுநகரம் நேயுதாக்கு அநை இடவீடு. 1944 வ. பச்சுநகரம்

28th July 1952]

[Sri M. Gangappa]

రంజా డిపార్టుమెంట్ కమిషియర్ ట్యాక్సు ఆఫీసు డొరన్స్‌ను గౌండర్ ఇచ్చిన తరువాత ఈ సేల్స్ ట్యాక్సును ఇటువంటి వ్యాపారస్థులైన గూడా వేయడం ప్రారంభించేసినాడు ఈ వ్యాపారస్థులకు రెండు సరికులు తెచ్చిస్తున్నారు. వీరి ఆగ్రహాలను అమ్మకాని ఆ డిబ్బును రెట్రోజెక్టు, ఈ ట్యాక్సు గూడ కట్టవలసి వస్తున్నది. ఇది వారికి కాగా కష్టంగా ఉంటున్నది. ఈ విధంగా వాణిజ్య ట్యాక్స్ వేస్తూ చాడవెడుతుండగా ఆ వ్యాపారస్థులు ఆ ఆఫీసుకు ఆప్టిం చేసుకొన్నారు. గవర్నమెంటుకు ఆప్టిం చేసుకొన్నా కూడా వారు ఛెజిల్ వేసుకోలేదు. తరువాత వీరు కోర్టుకు పోయినారు. కోర్టులో వీరు గెలిచినారు మూడు కోర్ట్లలోనూ గెలిచినారు. వీరికి అనుకూలముగా తీర్మానం ఇవ్వబడింది. అయినప్పటికూడా ఆ కోర్టు తీర్మానాలను లెక్కచేయకుండా డిప్యూటీ కమిషనరు ఈ వ్యాపారస్థులను తొందరపెడుతునే ఉన్నారు. వారిపైన లేని పాస్ ప్రాసెస్సులను కేసులు పెడుతూ, వారిని హింస పెడుతున్నారు. కనుక ఈ ట్యాక్సు ఇటువంటి వ్యాపారస్థులపైన లేకుండా చేయవలసి ప్రభుత్వాన్ని కోరుచున్నాను.

“తరువాత దూది వ్యాపారస్థులకు కూడా దూడిడిద సేల్స్ ట్యాక్స్ వేస్తున్నారు. ఇది చట్టానికి విరుద్ధము చట్టములో ఏమూడీ లేదు. దూది వ్యాపారస్థులు రైసెన్సు లీస్ కోవలసి యుంటుంది. కనుక వాడెవ్వరినీ రైసెన్సు ఫీజు వూత్రము ఇవ్వాలి చేయవచ్చునగాని సేల్స్ ట్యాక్స్ ఎవరూ చేయకూడదు. మరూ దూది వ్యాపారస్థులు 15% రూపాయల రైసెన్సు వ్యాపారము చేస్తున్నారు. అటువంటివృద్ధు వ్యాపార ప్రరి లక్ష రూపాయలకు నూరు రూపాయలు ట్యాక్స్ వేస్తున్నారు. తరువాత సరికు ఈ స్టేటునుంచి ఇంకొక స్టేటుకు పోవేటకొకటూ గూడా సూటికి ఎగమిది అటాలు ప్రకారం ట్యాక్స్ వేస్తున్నారు. ఇది న్యాయముగాదు. కనుక ఈ దూది వ్యాపారస్థులపైన కూడా ట్యాక్స్ తీసివేయవలెనని ప్రార్థిస్తున్నాను.

“మరొక విషయం ఏమంటే ప్రస్తుతం సేల్స్ ట్యాక్స్ ఆఫీసులో ఉన్న వంటి ఆఫీసర్లు ఎక్స్‌జెక్టివ్ డిపార్టుమెంటునుంచిన్నీ, ఇన్‌స్పెక్టివ్ డిపార్టుమెంటును చిన్నీ ఇచ్చిన వంటివారు. వారికి వ్యాపారస్థుల సమస్యలకు ఏమీ తెలియదు కనుక అటువంటి వారిని ఈ సేల్స్ ట్యాక్స్ ఆఫీసులో వేయకుండా వారిని తీసివేసి ఆకౌంట్‌లు క్లెయిర్ పాస్ అయినవారిని లేక ఎక్సైజ్ సేల్స్ ట్యాక్స్ ఆఫీసుగా వేస్తే బాగుంటుందని నా అభిప్రాయము.

“తరువాత ప్రస్తుతము సేల్స్ ట్యాక్స్ డిప్యూటీ కమిషనరులో, ఏ జిల్లా వారిని ఆ జిల్లాలోనే వేస్తున్నారు. దీనివల్ల డిప్యూటీ కమిషనరులో చాలా పరిపాకానికి అవకాశముంటుంది కనుక ఒక జిల్లావారిని ఇంకొక జిల్లాలో డిప్యూటీ కమిషనరుగా వేసి ఆ జిల్లావారిని ఈ జిల్లాకుగాని ఇంకొక జిల్లాకుగాని వేస్తూ ఈ విధంగా ఒక జిల్లావారిని అదే జిల్లాకు వేయకుండా చూడవలెనన్నీ అదే ప్రకారం ఇప్పుడున్న డిప్యూటీ కమిషనరు మార్చవలెనన్నీ కోరచున్నాను. అదే జిల్లావాని ఫిర్మోగ్‌నుగా వేయడమువల్ల వ్యాపారస్థులకు చాలా అన్యాయము తొందరలు జరుగుచున్నవి. కనుక వైవిధ్యంగా వారిని మార్చవలెనని కోరుచున్నాను. తరువాత ఈ విషయంలో వ్యాపారస్థులు మంత్రిలకు మొమరాండములు పెట్టుకొంటే గూడా మంత్రిగారు ఛెజిల్ వేసుకోలేదని తెలుస్తున్నది. తరువాత వారు మంత్రిగారిలో ఇంటర్ ఫ్యూజుగా ను అడిగితే, దానికి కూడా బదులు ఇవ్వలేదని తెలుస్తున్నది. కనుక మంత్రిగారు ఈ విధంగా చేయకుండా, వ్యాపారస్థులకు దయ ఉంచి వారినిండి వీరైన మొమరాండములు వస్తే, వాటిని విచారించి, వారికి ఇంటర్ ఫ్యూ ఇచ్చి వారియొక్క అభిప్రాయాలను తెలుసుకోవలెనని కోరుచున్నాను.”

[28th July 1952]

* SRI S. JAYARAMA REDDIYAR:—“ Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to say a few words about the way in which this Commercial Tax Department is functioning. We have always been complaining that there are leakages. As one hon. Member from the other side has pointed out, on account of the Government Order, that was issued recently that there must be more effective collections, the poor petty traders in the villages are harassed instead of the big merchants, including the foreigners in the City of Madras. In this connexion, I am reminded of a statement made by the Ex-Finance Minister, Mr. B. Gopala Reddi, in one of the Sales Tax Advisory Committee meetings. He said ‘ why do you worry about petty merchants? If we are vigilant in the First Line Beach, it will bring us crores of rupees; if we are able to find out the leakages in one of the transactions in the First Line Beach, we can get more money than we get in one whole district. ’ I, therefore, feel that the Hon. Minister, instead of issuing a Government Order, that there must be more effective collections of sales tax from the petty traders in the remote villages who are not able to keep proper accounts, should be more vigilant in the City of Madras itself.

“ Then, Sir, I would like to narrate some of the difficulties that are being experienced by the various classes of merchants. The hon. Member, Mr. V. V. Ramaswami, has pointed out the difficulties experienced by groundnut merchants.

12 noon “ Groundnut is the one single commodity on which purchase tax is also levied. Suppose I purchase groundnut kernel. I have to pay purchase tax. If I want to convert groundnut into oil and cakes and sell them, I have to pay sales tax. Afterwards I will have to apply for a rebate. The merchants who are trading in groundnut are put to this sort of difficulty. It is time the Government issue necessary orders to remedy the defect. I hope they would look into the matter and do the needful.

“ In season and out of season, we find the question of multi-point levy of sales tax being discussed. It seems to me that some hon. Members from the other side are also in favour of single-point levy of sales tax. I was talking to an expert in this line. He was of the view that we stood to gain if we introduced single-point levy of sales tax. In that case also, we can be sure that we could get the same amount of eighteen crores of rupees which we are now getting. Incidentally we can also effect some savings in our administration. Some of the departments could be abolished. I sincerely trust that this question of multi-point levy of sales tax *vs.* single-point levy would be thoroughly examined by the Government and a decision arrived at very soon.

“ I read in the morning newspaper that the Government of Bombay are proceeding with their multi-point levy of sales tax. Their first decision to postpone such a legislation had been temporarily suspended. But that does not matter. Our State was the father of sales tax. It was our State which, under the able leadership of the very same Chief Minister whom we are having now,

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பேச்சுதான் இருக்கிறது. மேலும் இந்த உணவுப் பொருள்களுக்கும் விற்பனை வரியைப் போடுவதால் எல்லா மக்களும் பல வழிகளிலும் குறை கூறுகிறார்கள். ஆதலால் ஒரு அளவில் உணவுப் பொருள்களுக்கும் இந்த வரியை வாங்காமல் செய்தால் ரொம்பவும் நன்றாக இருக்கும். அதனால் வற்புடைய நஷ்டத்தை சரிக்கட்ட வேறு பொருள்களின் மீது வரிபோட்டு, அதாவது ஆடம் பரமான பொருள்களின் மீது ஒரு ரூபாயிற்கு ஒரு அணு அல்லது இரண்டு அணு என்று அதிகமாக வசூலித்தால் அதைக் கொண்டு இந்தப் பஜெட்டில் குறைந்திருக்கும் தொகையையும் சரிக்கட்ட முடியும். பல நண்பர்களும் இந்த விஷயத்தைப்பற்றி நன்கு சொன்னார்கள். இருந்த போதிலும் ஆடம் பரப் பொருள்களை வாங்கித் தங்களது வாழ்க்கையை நடத்துகிறவர்கள் எந்தெந்த வழிகளில் தங்களுடைய பணத்தை செலவழிக்கிறார்கள், என்னென்ன பொருள்கள் வாங்குகிறார்கள், என்பதை கவனித்து அவைகள் மீது எந்த அளவிற்கு வரிபோடலாம் என்பதை யாசித்துப் பார்த்து விற்பனை வரி அதிகரிக்க வேண்டும். சாதாரணமாக அந்தப் பொருள்களை எடுத்து கொண்டால் அவைகளில் மோட்டார் கார், ரேடியோ, wrist watch, வாசீனை திரையங்கள், புனைப்படம் செட் போன்ற பலவிதமான சாமான்களுக்கு ரூபாய்க்கு நாலரை வரையில் வரி விதிக்கலாம். அவ்விதம் விதித்தால் பணக்காரர்களைத் தான் பாதிக்கும், எந்த விதத்திலும் ஆடம்பர வாழ்க்கையை நடத்தாத ஏழைகளை பாதிக்கப்பட மாட்டாது. ஆகவே ஆடம்பர வாழ்க்கையை நடத்துகிறவர்களுக்கு முக்யமாக போதுமான அளவில் விற்பனை வரியை போட்டால் எல்லா ஜனங்களும் மிகவும் ஆதரவுடன் வரவேற்பார்கள் என்று நம்புகிறேன்.

“இப்பொழுது விற்பனை வரியை வசூலிக்கும் அதிகாரிகள் மிகவும் கடுமையான முறையில் வரியை வசூலிக்கின்றார்கள். இது விஷயத்தில் இரண்டொரு வார்த்தைகள் சொல்ல விரும்புகிறேன். பெரிய நகரங்களில் பார்த்தால் அவர்களுடைய கஷ்டம் அவ்வளவாகத் தெரியாது. ஆனால் சாதாரணமாக சிறிய நகரங்களில் பார்த்தால் தான் அவர்களுடைய கொடுமைகள் அறியப்படுகின்றன. சிறிய கடைகளை வைத்திருப்பவர்களுக்கு சாதாரணமாக போலீஸ்காரர்களைக் கண்டால் அதிகமான பயம் இருக்கும். இந்த விற்பனை வரியை வசூலிப்பவர்கள் வருகிறார்கள் என்றால் அதை விட அதிகமாக பயமடைகிறார்கள். காரணம் அவர்கள் கேட்கும் முறையையும் எடுத்துக் கொள்ளும் நடவடிக்கையையும் கண்டால் அவர்கள் அந்தமாதிரி பயம்டுகிறார்கள். அவர்களிடம் சென்று எந்த அளவில் கடைக்கு பார்த்து வாங்க வேண்டுமோ அந்த அளவில் வாங்கினால் அவர்களுக்கு செளகரியமாக இருக்கும். அவ்விதம் செய்தால் ஜனங்கள் குறை கூறு மாட்டார்கள். ஆகவே கணம் மந்திரி அவர்கள் வரி வசூலிக்கும் அதிகாரிகளுக்கு ஒரு உத்திரவு அனுப்பி வியாபாரிகளைக் கௌரவமடைய முறையில் நடத்தி அரசாங்கக் காரியங்களை ஒழுங்காக முறைப்படி செய்து முடித்து வரி வசூலிக்கும்படி அதிகாரிகளுக்கு உத்திரவு விரப்பிக்கும்படி கேட்டுக்கொள்கிறேன்.”

* SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—“Mr. Speaker, Sir, this Demand consists of several items, and somehow or other, some of them have not been emphasized on the floor of this House. I would make a passing reference at least to the betting tax and the tobacco duties.

“Sir, some Press announcement was made some time ago that betting would be abolished, but that racing would be continued. I have no time, Sir, to argue out the matter; but from what I have heard from those who are experts in the line, not only in this State but also in other States like Mysore, Bombay and Bengal, I understand that racing without betting will be a dead thing. Therefore, the Government must make up their mind at an All-India level whether they would like to have this racing or

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not. It is not one of those things to which any original sin is attached; but anyway I do not propose to go into the ethics of the matter. However, in view of the difference of opinion upon this subject and in view of the certainty that racing will be a dead thing without betting, it is time for the Government to consider the matter in the light of the opinions of these experts. I hope the Government will do something in the matter."

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—"What is the view of the Leader of the Opposition?"

* * SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"The Hon. the Chief Minister asks me what my view is. As I said, I am not an expert in the line; but I do know that racing is very good and that betting is very bad, and also it is a fact that racing will die without betting. Therefore, we must effect some sort of reconciliation. We are living in a material world and we cannot always impose our philosophical-ideas on every small item.

"With regard to the tobacco duties, I think our Government will put up a very strong fight with the Centre for the allotment of a larger share to this State. On that point, the public will surely be with the Government. In fact, half the tobacco grown in this country is grown in this State, and half of that half is grown in the Guntur district. From every point of view, we are entitled to a much greater share from the tobacco excise pool. I hope that the Government will put up a strong fight to get it.

"Then, Sir, I come to sales tax. After some wrangling over the matter, the previous Ministry, after three or four years, agreed to appoint a Sales Tax Appellate Tribunal. It was done more or less in response to public criticism and the criticism levelled on the floor of the House, but the thing was not done in the proper way. There were several defects; and in the end, the Minister said that the Government would after a time make a review in the light of the actual working of the Tribunal. May I submit certain considerations arising out of this? At present, the Sales Tax Appellate Tribunal is subordinate to the Revenue Department. The very purpose for which the Appellate Tribunal was started was to see that executive influence over the judicial functions of the Tribunal was removed. That was the fundamental idea. I, therefore, suggest that the Appellate Tribunal be made subordinate to the administrative and revisory control of the High Court. That would set right matters, and the confidence which the people repose in the Appellate Tribunal will then increase on that account.

"Then again, we provided for an itinerant Appellate Tribunal so that it might be really useful. It was conceived in the interests of the small assesseees; but now I understand that a rule has been passed that they cannot go about, and that the amount necessary for their itinerary has not been allowed by the Government. All assesseees, Sir, are not rich, and I submit it would serve public interests and the interests of the department itself better, to give them the necessary finance for their itinerary. After all,

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responsible people are on the Appellate Tribunal and one need not doubt that they will not be as economical in their itinerary as possible, consistent with the demands of the work entrusted to them.

“ If the Government feel that the itinerary of the three members may prove costly, I will even suggest that in small matters of fact and in the case of small assesseees, a single-member Bench may be constituted and one of the three might be sent over to different areas. These the Government might do in consultation with the Appellate Tribunal.

12-20
p.m.

“ At the time of constituting the Tribunal, we did point out that the Tribunal's powers should be wide enough to cover all cases arising under the Act but the Finance Minister at the time had some notions about it and he would not yield but now, the Hon. the Finance Minister, being a lawyer, and the Hon. the Chief Minister, being a lawyer, would, I am sure, understand that the purpose of the Tribunal will be better served if we widen its jurisdiction. At present, appeal lies only against orders under section 11; there are other cases, like compositions and cases of levy of licence fees, in which also several points of importance do arise. Composition matters are not small matters and they are the tests of the efficiency or the inefficiency of the Department. Provision must, therefore, be made widening the jurisdiction of the Tribunal.

“ I wish also to point out that the provision for dual jurisdiction is absurd. The Government and the Appellate Tribunal have got concurrent jurisdiction and at a particular stage, the assessee can choose as his forum either the department or the Government. We showed to the Hon. the Finance Minister at the time how it was absurd to have two forums, one ensuring the principle of justice and the other ensuring the principle of patronage, but the Hon. the Finance Minister then said ‘ It may be absurd but that is what we want to do.’ I hope that the present Government will think over the matter and amend the Act in this direction. Of course, possibly, the ideas of the previous Government were not fully responsive to the justice side of it and they were merely looking at it from the executive side. I do believe that, now that both the Hon. the Minister for Finance and the Hon. the Chief Minister are always having some regard for the rule of law, they will reconsider the question.

“ About the question of recruitment to the department, one hon. Member has already pointed out to the House that recruitment to this department is mostly from the Revenue and Excise departments and on account of this, much difficulty arises. There are not many people with accounting experience in the department and I understand that the administration is in the hands of people who are not experts in accounting. There are Members not on this side of the House but on the Congress side, who know how the assesseees knowing accounting are having an advantage over the departmental people who are not so well-versed. This is a matter which should be looked into by the Government and it is with

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that idea that the hon. Member, Sri V. V. Ramasami Nadar, suggested that there should be a committee to consider the several points arising from the administration of the Sales Tax Act and one of them is the question of recruitment. I will go to the extent of saying that the staff of the department must be recruited entirely from those who have passed very high accounting examinations. Then only they will be able to meet the intelligence of the assesseees and the intricacies that may arise from time to time. We are dealing with one of the cleverest set of people, people more intelligent than many of us. They are paying us crores of rupees and it is a duty cast upon the Government to see that they do not harass the people and it is a duty equally cast upon them to have officials who know the matter. People who know the matter will not harass because the harassment is due to and is often the result of incompetence and, therefore, they want to cover up their weakness by harassment."

SRI S. RAMASWAMY NAIDU:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, may I remind the hon. Member that the accounts are written up by people who do not know the A.B.C. of the English language and much less of accounts?"

* SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"I am not referring to the very small persons who do not know how to write accounts but I am referring to people, about whom an hon. Member of the House said that if the Hon. the Finance Minister had under him a staff better manned, we would be able to get Rs. 5 crores or more from people in the First Line Beach. They are very intelligent, more intelligent than all of us and so, we must have our Commissioner, Deputy Commissioner and even the Board of Revenue Member who will be in charge of the department with even a higher knowledge in accounts in order to pull up the departmental people and the assesseees. So, I feel that the Government will be well-advised to convene a conference. In that conference, they can also consider the question of multi-point taxation."

"I think the Hon. the Chief Minister is wedded to the principle of multi-point sales tax now as he was at the time when he introduced the original Bill. The relative merits of the single point taxation and the multi-point taxation were hotly discussed and even now we have got on the list one or two items which are liable only for a single point levy. However good and just he may be, it is good to have the opinions of others so that he may reconsider the matter instead of giving a final verdict upon it. The example of the Bombay Government should not induce us to come to the conclusion that multi-point taxation is good. It may be good from the Government's point of view but it must also be good from the point of view of assesseees; to assesseees who number lakhs and thousands, the multi-point tax is a source of harassment. One hon. Member called it a monster. That word has not only come from this side but from the other side also, from Members

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sitting on the Ministerialist side. I do not know what the Hon. the Chief Minister thinks about that. I feel it is time to consider the matter afresh.

"I do not know what kind of report the Sales Tax Appellate Tribunal have submitted to the Government. I wish to know whether the Administration Report will be placed on the table of the House. I ask the Hon. the Minister in charge of the department to place the Administration Report on the table of the House; it will be of very great help not only to the Government but also to the Members and the assesseees. After all, all are interested in the clean enforcement of the Act; we want cleanliness not only on the part of the assesseees but there should be the same standard of cleanliness in the matter of assessing and enforcing the Act.

"Then, Sir, about the commission agents. I feel, Sir, that the Act should be amended and the term 'Commission Agent' should be properly defined. I know that, in regard to this matter, there are two judgments; one was in 1950. Another case is in 1952; and a Full Bench decision has been given and the judgment extended the definition of 'commission agent' but specifically said that the Bellary case stood on a different footing and that the case had not been overruled. But I understand that the Board of Revenue did not read the judgment correctly and have issued instructions to the effect that the Full Bench judgment has overruled the previous judgment. I have myself gone through the Full Bench case and I am sure it has not overruled the previous case and it is for the Government to amend the definition in the light of those two judgments.

"Sir, I am coming to the most important portion of this discussion, namely, the removal of the sales tax on foodstuffs. It is a very necessary thing. Throughout the State, people are demanding it. When meetings are addressed by the Hon. the Chief Minister and thousands gather, let him not assume that they are supporting everything that is on the Statute Book. I know he is experienced enough not to make such a mistake. The people are dead against it. (Interruption.) The Hon. the Chief Minister knows that the people are against it. Then let him not persist in it."

12-30
p.m.

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—"People are against all taxation."

* SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"The Hon. the Chief Minister cannot lightly say that the people are against all kinds of taxation. We, on this side of the House, never said that we were opposed to any form of taxation. Nobody will say so. We know the responsibility of the Government but we also know the difficulties of the people. When we make a representation, it should not be treated in a nonchalant manner that people do not relish any taxation. That is not the way of looking at it. Then, there is also the humanitarian point of view. Therefore, the first step in the consideration of the matter is to accept what the hon. Member, Sri Vinayakam, said while moving his Cut Motion. If the

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Government are really sincere and serious in their statements of giving relief to the poor people, it would be their bounden duty to cancel sales tax on essential foodstuffs. Even the Central Government have passed legislation—I do not know whether this Government have received it—exempting all essential articles in the life of the community from sales tax. (Interruption from the Treasury Benches: ‘The Central Government do not care.’) If the Central Government do not care nobody cares. Only the Madras Government care for the interests of the poor! I am surprised to hear such a statement. I say, if the Government are serious about the interests of the poor and the lower middle classes, let them cancel sales tax on foodstuffs.

“Then, it may be said, ‘Already our income is low and, if we exempt foodstuffs from the sales tax, our income will be further reduced.’ I may submit, whether our income is low or not, it is the moral duty of this Government to cancel sales tax on all essential foodstuffs. As a matter of fact, I am sure that the total income under sales tax will not be reduced even if the Government cancel sales tax on foodstuffs. Now I come to figures. In 1950-51, the Government collected Rs. 16 crores and 26 lakhs. In the Budget Estimate for 1951-52, it was foreseen that we would get Rs. 15 crores and 48 lakhs. But actually the preliminary accounts given in June 1952 showed that we got Rs. 30 lakhs more, that is, Rs. 15 crores and 78 lakhs. What then is the justification to foresee a lesser figure for 1952-53? There is no reason to bring down the figure to Rs. 14 crores and 83 lakhs. While the Hon. the Minister for Finance said that he could foresee only Rs. 14 crores and 50 lakhs, the Hon. Minister who moved this Demand said that this ‘*Kamadhenu*’ would yield anything between Rs. 16 crores and Rs. 18 crores. The fact is, there are, I think, two sets of files circulating in the Secretariat—one file showing roughly the anticipated income at Rs. 16 crores to Rs. 18 crores and another, prepared for reinforcing their case for fresh taxation showing only Rs. 14 crores and 50 lakhs. I submit that this is not the correct way of doing things. Rupees 16 crores or Rs. 18 crores is nothing and the Government can increase the yield from this tax if they adopt some of the measures suggested by some hon. Members. There is plenty of leakage in the working of this Act. I suggest that the Government should change a good deal of the personnel of this department and put in their places those who know accounting. If the Government weed out those whose palms are itching, the Government will get nearly Rs. 20 crores. This view is shared by persons who are appearing before the Sales Tax Appellate Tribunal on behalf of the assesseees. Some of the officers who were hearing these cases also told me the same thing. Therefore, let the Government not take the view that less income from sales tax is to be anticipated this year or that they are likely to lose substantially if they cancel sales tax on foodstuffs. It is absolutely necessary that there should be no sales tax on foodstuffs, whatever might happen to the income of the Government. At the same

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time, I may tell the Government that if they really reorganize the entire department and put it in the hands of efficient men, they can increase the income. It cannot be done by merely issuing a Government Order to the concerned authorities that they want more money, thus giving an inducement to the petty officials to harass petty merchants. The Hon. Minister said that he would get Rs. 16 to 18 crores from this '*Kamadhenu*.' I thought that the word '*Kamadhenu*'—that kind of picturesque language—disappeared along with the previous Finance Minister but the present Minister in charge of this Demand has taken over the mantle and he has also used the term '*Kamadhenu*.' If it is so nice a language, does the Hon. Minister know that he has engaged very bad milkmen to carry the milk? His milkmen are not all honest. The present system of recruiting personnel to this department should be changed and more efficient and competent persons who know accounting should be appointed. If my suggestions are accepted, the income from sales tax will be increased and there will be no need for the fresh taxation measures which the Government have got under contemplation. I hope my suggestions will be considered in the spirit in which I have made them. I once more repeat that sales tax on foodstuffs, handloom cloth, yarn supplied to handlooms, and such other essential things, which are necessary for the poor and lower middle class people, should be cancelled. If they do not cancel it, this Government will lose the sympathy of the vast majority of the people in this State once for all. Unless the Government say that they are willing to cancel sales tax on essential foodstuffs, the Cut Motion will be pressed. If they do not accept it now, they will have to pay for it in the near future."

* THE HON. SRI S. B. P. PATTABHI RAMA RAO—"Mr. Speaker, Sir. I am really thankful to the House for the very impassioned manner in which the criticisms, levelled against the administration of the departments for which I moved the Demand, have been made. On the whole, eighteen hon. Members spoke on the Demand. Although hon. Members who took part have expressed their views on several points which they considered unsatisfactory in the administration mainly of the Sales Tax Act, I am confident that they and the entire House appreciate the importance of the Demand, the necessity for passing it and for rejecting the Cut Motion. Hon. Members referred to various aspects in the administration of the Sales Tax Act and I can assure them all that very deep consideration is being given to their suggestions.

"As a matter of fact, considering the income of this department, I should think the expenditure is very little or negligible.

"The hon. the Leader of the Opposition, Mr. Viswanatham, has given some really constructive suggestions and I am thankful to him. But, at the same time, in his usual style he said that '*Kamadhenu*' required good milkmen. As far as my knowledge goes, I may inform him that '*Kamadhenu*' requires no milkman to milk. Milk from '*Kamadhenu*' comes of its own accord. That is my view."

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SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"There are men who steal away the milk."

12-40
p.m.

* THE HON. SRI S. B. P. PATTABHI RAMA RAO:—"If there are milkmen who are trying to steal away milk, there are impartial observers outside who are looking at them. So, if great injustice is being done, it is the duty of the department to see that the defects are rectified. I tell the hon. Gentleman that concrete cases may be brought to our notice. And then, I say, on behalf of our Government, that all proper precautions will be taken. If there are defects, they will be rectified. As far as my knowledge goes, in the few months that I have been in office, I see that the department is really doing its best to collect as much tax as possible. But if there are hard cases, and if they are brought to my notice, I shall look into them. Government will see that severe punishment is given to those officers, if there are lapses on their part."

Then, Sir, the hon. the Leader of the Opposition, Mr. T. Viswanatham, said that proper and duly qualified officers should be appointed to the Sales Tax department. At present, Sir, officers are not recruited to this department from all departments at random, but from the Excise and Revenue departments. Persons in the Sales Tax department are also being promoted, for they are persons who have had some experience of the working of the department. Those who have knowledge of banking, book-keeping and accountancy and have had training and passed the examinations held by the Institute of Chartered Accountants are recruited. As regards the other suggestions coming from the Leader of the Opposition, we shall give them due weight. I am thankful to him for the suggestions he has made regarding the Sales Tax Appellate Tribunal. But he has made an allegation that that Tribunal as it is constituted to-day is a body subordinate to the Board of Revenue. I emphatically repudiate that charge. It is not so; it is not a body subordinate to the Board of Revenue. On the other hand, it is an independent body; it is an independent judicial body; it is independent in every respect. Only the staff, such as the clerical staff, is recruited by the Board of Revenue. On the judicial side, the Tribunal is a completely independent body. So, Sir, I may assure the Leader of the Opposition once again that it is not a subordinate body in the strict sense of that word."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"So in some sense it is subordinate." (Laughter.)

THE HON. SRI S. B. P. PATTABHI RAMA RAO:—"No, it is not so; it is not so in the judicial sphere, though the Revenue Board is assisting it by means of a clerical staff on the administrative side."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"That shows it is subordinate."

THE HON. SRI S. B. P. PATTABHI RAMA RAO:—"It is not subordinate."

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SRI T. VISWANATHAM :—“ Has not the Board of Revenue control over the staff and over the preferment of the Members of the Tribunal? ”

* **THE HON. SRI S. B. P. PATTABHI RAMA RAO** :—“ If the High Court sends to Government proposals for sanction of their staff, does it mean that the High Court is a body subordinate to Government? ”

SRI T. VISWANATHAM :—“ The Hon. Minister has not understood me. Has not the Board of Revenue power over the preferments of the staff and the Members of the Tribunal? ”

* **THE HON. SRI S. B. P. PATTABHI RAMA RAO** :—“ No, Sir. We asked the High Court to suggest the name of a senior District Judge for the post of the Chairman of the Tribunal. A name was suggested by the High Court, and we accepted it as long as there was nothing wrong with the officer whose name was so suggested. The other Member of the Tribunal is a Chartered Accountant selected by the Public Service Commission. He is duly qualified in accountancy and auditing. The third Member is a senior officer of the Sales Tax department, one who has the best knowledge of the working of the department and whose services have been lent to the Tribunal. Does the hon. Leader of the Opposition suggest that such a body would be subordinate to the Board of Revenue? I may tell him once for all that it is not a body subordinate to the Board of Revenue, in any sense.

“ Now, as to the functioning of the Tribunal, I accept there are some defects in the Act for the sitting of the Single Member Tribunal. The existing Act does not provide for this. We shall shortly examine this and come forward with amendments to the Act in the light of the very reasonable suggestions made by the Leader of the Opposition. As regards the Tribunal touring round the State, we thought in the beginning it should for some time hold its sittings only in Madras, it being a central place, and in future if circumstances demanded, it might go round the State holding its sitting in important centres.

“ Then, Sir, as regards the charge levelled against the Government of Madras that they have given over the tax on tobacco to the Central Government, I wish to state that under Article 286 (1) and (2) of the Constitution, exports have ceased to be taxable by the State Government and consequently the Government of India wanted to reduce the compensation. After a vigorous stand by this Government, the Government of India dropped the question and agreed to the present sum of Rs. 56 lakhs per annum till 1959. The question of asking for a larger compensation is engaging the attention of the department, and the Board of Revenue has been asked for fuller data, preliminary to addressing the Government of India. The Board of Revenue is examining it and we shall be only too glad if the Government of India accept it. We are trying to put up a stiff fight on that.

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“The hon. Member, Mr. Vinayakam, who moved the cut motion, has laid great emphasis on the levy of sales tax on foodstuffs. Sir, this question, which has been examined by the Government, time and again, has been referred to in the speeches of not only the Mover of the Cut Motion but also by many of the other hon. Members who followed him. Hon. Members will appreciate that in a Welfare State, where needs are growing, we can hardly afford to surrender any source of revenue that we are having now. If we were to do so indiscriminately, many of our nation-building projects would have to be abandoned and our finances would be crippled. Members on the Opposition Benches have themselves too considered the sales tax as ‘*Kamadhenu*’, and if we were to accept the suggestion that sales tax on all foodstuffs should be abolished, it would be chopping off one of the legs of the ‘*Kamadhenu*.’ The hon. the Leader of the Opposition, Mr. Viswanatham, and others said that I should not have used the word ‘*Kamadhenu*’ simply because the previous Government used that term. Still, they know this is the only flexible source and an important source too of our revenue. So, we cannot afford to give much concession in respect of this tax. If at this stage we lift the levy of sales tax on foodstuffs, we would lose, on the last year’s basis, Rs. 3.63 crores. That is a considerable sum when we remember that we have a deficit Budget for this year. As it is, there is a deficit in Budget to an extent of Rs. 4 crores; and if this concession were also to be shown, the gulf would be wider and we would have to resort to further additional taxation and that will be hitting the poor man more and more. So, I hope the House will appreciate that we cannot really afford to throw this sum away. I request the hon. the Leader of the Opposition, Mr. Viswanatham, and others not to press for the lifting of sales tax on foodstuffs.

“Then, Sir, the Act provides for the exemption of the agriculturist himself from the payment of any sales tax. So, no charge can be made that the agriculturist has to pay a tax in addition to the land revenue which he has already paid. It is only the dealer who is actually taxed. When an agriculturist sells his paddy or other grain or, for the matter of that, any agricultural produce, that sale is exempt from taxation, and the incidence of tax falls for the first time only when the dealer sells it to the next merchant or consumer. The Government have repeatedly examined this aspect and it has been found that no hardship whatsoever is caused to the agriculturist and that, therefore, there would be no justification for exempting foodstuffs from the levy of sales tax.

“From the constitutional aspect of the question too, tax on foodstuffs is justified because, while the Constitution [Article 286 (3)] specifies a ban on the levy of any tax on essential articles, it does not prohibit the levy of the tax, where it was in existence prior to the coming into force of the Constitution. Our State has been levying this tax since 1939, ever since the inception of the levy of sales tax.

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"In this connection, I would also like to say a word in respect of another oft-repeated request, namely, the abolition of the sales tax on vegetables which has been stressed by the hon. Gentleman, Sri K. Vinayakam. As a matter of fact, Sir, I may mention, the Government have appreciated the fact that these articles are liable to rapid deterioration and they have, therefore, imposed on them a concessional rate of tax instead of the usual rates. In the case of these commodities, the tax leviable is at the rate of Rs. 96 per annum in the case of turnover not exceeding Rs. 15,000 and Rs. 144 in the case of turnover exceeding Rs. 15,000 but not exceeding Rs. 20,000. Concessions cannot be given on a general scale for every commodity; however, every individual case is being examined and where there is real hardship and necessity, the Government are certainly considering it with a human touch.

12-0
p.m.

"The hon. Gentleman, Sri K. Vinayakam, also referred to the tax on hotels and pleaded for its abolition on the ground that the small hotels in the mufassal found it a great hardship to pay their dues. I am afraid that the hon. gentleman has not got much knowledge of the running of hotels and the percentage of profit that is recognized as normal in the catering business."

SRI K. VINAYAKAM:—"Sir, on a point of order. The Hon. Minister is not aware of the fact that I am a caterer by profession and the Hon. Minister alleges that I have no experience in catering! I am myself depending upon the catering profession. Probably, the Hon. Minister has no experience of it."

* THE HON. SRI S. B. P. PATTABHI RAMA RAO:—"Sir, I confess I did not know that he is a caterer but, I can assure the House of one thing, namely, that the figures we have in the department show definitely that this catering business is very profitable. It has been estimated by a close study of the hotel business, that, under normal circumstances, it yields a profit of about fifty per cent. A tax of three pias per rupee on these hotels would not surely be a hardship. I am sure, Sir, that this much at least should be levied to meet the needs of a Welfare State. If, at all, it does harm, it goes only to the extent of lessening a portion of the profits but certainly not to the extent of its being felt as a big hardship.

"Reference has also been made, Sir, to the fact that newspapers have been exempted from sales tax. I think, Sir, the hon. Gentleman, Sri K. Vinayakam, knows that it is due to an Act of the Central Government and not due to an Act of this Government. We have no control over that.

"I am grateful to hon. Gentleman, Sri K. Vinayakam and others for the suggestion that they have made that luxury articles like motor vehicles, radio sets, etc., should be subjected to a higher rate of tax. I may inform the House that, as things are to-day, they are already subjected to a higher rate of tax and, if we levy a still higher tax on them, the income from sales may

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be affected this way that we in our turn may lose our tax in proportion to the fall in the turnover. I feel that all that is possible has already been done. However, we will re-examine the suggestion in view of what the hon. Members have said, and see whether we can try to get something more from this source.

“Sir, the hon. Member, Mr. Arogyasami, referred in his speech, to the desirability of levying sales tax at a single point and pleaded that our multiple point system affected the merchants considerably and led to a lot of evasion. Sir, as a matter of fact, this point regarding the conversion of the multi-point taxation to single point taxation has been stressed by the Leader of the Opposition as well as others. We were the first to introduce sales tax in the year 1938 and other States have followed our example making modifications to suit their local conditions. Some of them preferred to have a single point system but the indications are that most of them are trying to copy our system of multiple point taxation, because they have realized that our system is better than theirs. The latest in this list is the Bombay Government who are trying to follow our example of multiple point taxation.”

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—“The Government of Bombay have dropped it.”

* THE HON. SRI S. B. P. PATTABHI RAMA RAO:—“I do not think they have dropped it. Perhaps they have only deferred the question and, I am sure, a decision will be taken by that Government very shortly. However, the very idea of the Bombay Government trying to convert their single point taxation to multiple point taxation is a point in favour of the system existing here because our system seems to be yielding better revenue. In my opinion, it will be a retrograde step to adopt the single point system for there is likely to be a considerable loss of revenue and we certainly cannot afford to lose any revenue at this juncture. The object with which the other States are copying our system is for increasing their revenue.

“My hon. Friend, Sri S. Ramaswamy Naidu, also referred to this question, and all that I can say is that, if we are to safeguard our revenues, we must stick up to our present system for some time to come at least. He also made a plea on behalf of a particular industry, namely, the match industry in the southern region at Madurai and Coimbatore. My hon. Friend, Sri Jayarama Reddiar, also stressed the point that the match industry should be given some special consideration as it was a cottage industry. A deputation came and waited on me recently in this connexion. We are considering this question and we have asked the deputationists to send us some concrete proposals whereby the State may not lose its income in trying to change the present system of taxation. We have not yet received their proposals. They will be carefully considered by the Government on receipt. It is not the intention of the Government to cause any hardship to anyone, and the cottage industries particularly.

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"The hon. Member from Coimbatore, Sri Mounaguruswamy Naidu, while agreeing that on the whole, sales tax is equitable, has pointed out that certain defects in the administration are causing hardship. I am grateful to him for the information that some of the merchants are adopting the system of maintaining double sets of accounts and that sales are taking place without receipts being issued. I can assure him that the departmental officers are constantly on the alert and that such practices are dealt with sternly when detected. I would request the hon. Member, Sri Mounaguruswamy Naidu and other hon. Members to bring such cases to the notice of Government and the Government will certainly take advantage of it and see that such things are put an end to in the future. The assessment of the dealers by the officers of the Commercial Taxes department to the best of their judgment is reported to be a great hardship. But, I should like to remind hon. Members that such assessments are made only when the dealer fails to maintain accounts or when he submits incomplete or false returns. In such cases there is no other way of assessing dealers. Instructions will, however, be issued to the officers to have more of the human touch in making these assessments. The Sales Tax Appellate Tribunal look to the appeals made by the assesseees and this judicial Tribunal will meet out justice even, if by any chance, there was hardship felt at lower levels from the officers concerned.

"In regard to handloom cloth, the question has already been examined in great detail and a concessional rate has already been fixed in respect of it, namely, one and a half pies in the rupee. As a matter of fact, Sir, there is no tax at all in the case of Khadi. I think, Sir, that this is the best that could be done for the handloom cloth in the circumstances.

"The hon. Member from Malabar, Sri Kunhirama Kurup, made a plea in respect of the exemption from the entertainments tax of dance dramas like Kathakali. I might mention in this connexion that Government have issued orders that dance dramas, which also include Kathakali, be exempted from entertainments tax provided they are conducted by registered musical sabhas and similar other associations, for a period of two years from 1st November 1951.

"I am thankful, Sir, to the hon. Member, Mr. Seethi Sahib, for his very good suggestions. He rightly pointed out that this tax was necessary and that the administration of this tax was quite satisfactory though there were some defects. He wanted that the fish-curers must be exempted from this tax and that some hardship was felt by the fish-curers. I would like to inform the hon. Member that if any specific instances are brought to my notice and, if there is a real case for such exemption, the Government will take a liberal view in the case of these poor men who are dealing in fish. As a matter of fact, I might inform the hon. Member that when representations were brought to the notice of the Government, we ordered that fish caught by Rompeni nets be

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exempted from sales tax. In my opinion, similar concessions can be given in case there is real hardship felt in any particular place where poor fishermen experience any difficulty.

1 p.m. " I have received a petition from Malabar on this matter and I have referred it to the Board of Revenue and the Director of Fisheries for their remarks. On receipt of their remarks, I will go into the matter and if really there is any need to relieve the hardships of the poor fishermen, I may assure the hon. Member, Mr. Seethi Sahib, that proper instructions will be given in this regard.

" My hon. Friend, Mr. Chinnathambi Thevar, has supported the Demand and has rightly pointed out that it is a suicidal policy to abolish the general sales tax. He thinks that sales tax is more reasonable than even the land revenue. I am glad that the hon. Member has taken a correct view of the matter because sales tax is the main source of revenue in the State to-day. Government will take every possible care to see that all defects in the Sales Tax Administration are rectified.

" My good old Friend, Mr. V. V. Ramasami, prefers single point taxation to our present system of multiple point taxation to avoid leakages in the collection of this tax. He wants the present method of multiple point taxation to be abolished. I have already explained the view of the Government that it is not possible to have a change now because any loss of revenue from this tax at this stage to our State will throw a great burden on the poor man. Mr. V. V. Ramasami thinks that the Government may get the same amount of tax as they are getting now by turning to single point taxation. Particularly now, when Bombay and other States are trying to change over to multiple point taxation from single point taxation, and when we are experiencing financial stringency in our State, we cannot afford to take a risk in this matter by changing over to this single point taxation.

" Then, Sir, the hon. Member, Mr. Gangappa, made some suggestions about commission agents and also explained some of the hardships felt by them. I have also received a petition in this connexion and the Government are examining it. The Government will look into this matter, relieve hardships, if any, and correct any mistakes in the administrative set-up.

" I am thankful to the hon. the Leader of the Opposition, Mr. Viswanatham, for his views on the betting tax. He suggests that there must be a reconciliation between racing and betting though he does not tell us how it could be made. If racing is to continue and betting is considered bad, I do not know whether he means that we should close our eyes to what is happening. All the same, we shall consider all the suggestions he has made. This source of revenue is substantial and the Government will also take that into consideration before they come to any final decision.

" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have covered the main points and criticisms that have been levelled against the administration of the Sales Tax Act. Sales tax is the main source of revenue and ali

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possible care is being taken to rectify the defects in the administration of the tax. Compared to the revenue derived from the tax, this Demand for expenditure is very small. If I have given convincing arguments and assurances for the future, I would request the hon. Mover of the cut motion to withdraw the cut motion and support the Demand and pass it."

SRI K. VINAYAKAM:—"Without meaning any offence to the Cabinet, and in view of the unsatisfactory response from the Cabinet including the Father of the Sales Tax to my request of waiving the tax on foodstuffs, I see no reason why I should withdraw the cut motion."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I am now going to put the cut motion standing in the name of the hon. Member Sri K. Vinayakam to the vote of the House. The question is—

'That the allotment of Rs. 1,55,43,000 for General Sales Tax and Other Taxes and Duties be reduced by Rs. 100.' "

The cut motion was lost.

MR. SPEAKER:—"I shall now put the Demand to the vote of the House. The question is—

'That the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,55,43,000 under Demand VII—General Sales Tax and Other Taxes and Duties.' "

The Demand was carried and the Grant was made.

(2) DEMAND XX—CO-OPERATION.

* THE HON. SRI D. SANJIVAYYA:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I move—

'That the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 77,81,200 under Demand XX—Co-operation.'

"While moving this Demand, Sir, it is my duty to inform the House that this Demand covers the expenditure on five items. The first item is the salaries of the Registrar of Co-operative Societies, Joint Registrars, the Personal Assistant to the Registrar and the staff under them. The second item is the salaries of the staff employed for the work of auditing, supervision, liquidation and execution. The third item—a very interesting item—is for the ameliorative work in connexion with Prohibition. The fourth item relates to expenditure on Post-war Welfare Schemes like the Fishermen Welfare Scheme and the establishment of co-operative workshops for ex-army personnel. The fifth item relates to grants and subsidies to be given by Government to deserving co-operative societies. I have stated these because I want that hon. Members of this House while levelling criticisms should confine themselves to these items only and not to any other item. There is a likelihood of Members committing the mistake of thinking that house-building co-operative societies come under this Demand. It comes under Demand XLII probably to be moved by my Colleague the Hon. the Finance Minister.

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1-10 p.m. " Sir, having stated this, let me make a few general remarks about the co-operative movement. Co-operation is a very popular movement in our country. This movement contributes a great deal to the nation-building activities. Madras stands foremost among the States of this country in the matter of development of this movement. In Madras this movement has developed to a very large extent. The working capital of all the co-operative institutions is well over Rs. 85 crores which is more than the total revenue of this State. Co-operative movement in this State has developed in two directions, the credit side and the non-credit side. Let me first deal with the credit side. This again can be divided into two categories, long-term credit and short-term credit. Short-term credit is handled by institutions like the State Co-operative Bank, District Central Banks, urban banks and rural credit societies. The All-India Co-operative Planning Committee made a recommendation to this Government a few years ago to expand the rural credit system. The Government accepted the recommendation and, in pursuance of it, initiated the policy of *expansion* of the rural credit system in 1949. The main objectives of the policy are—

(1) to increase the number of societies so as to cover 50 per cent of the villages and 30 per cent of the population, and

(2) to reorganize rural credit societies into multi-purpose societies so that they may cater to the varied economic needs of their members.

In 1949 the rural credit system covered 40 per cent of the villages and 13 per cent of the population. Three years later, it covers 65 per cent of the villages and about 18 per cent of the population. In this respect, I feel that good progress has been made. With regard to reorganization into multi-purpose co-operative societies, out of about 16,000 rural credit societies, about 13,000 have been reorganized into multi-purpose co-operative societies.

"et Let me turn to long-term credit. Long-term credit is handed by the Central Land Mortgage Bank in Madras and about 129 primary land mortgage banks spread all over the State. The Central Land Mortgage Bank has a working capital of more than Rs. 5 crores, which is about 82 per cent of the total working capital of all the five Central Land Mortgage Banks in India. The Central Land Mortgage Bank has been progressing very well. Recently, due to the prevalence of drought conditions in many districts of the State, the borrowers from the various primary banks in those areas requested the Government to give extension of time for the payment of instalments. The Government granted a loan of Rs. 5 lakhs to the Central Land Mortgage Bank so that extension of time might be given to the borrowers in the drought-affected areas. A similar request was made on behalf of the borrowers from rural credit societies. This request could not be complied with on account of the fact that the loans were short-term loans and the amount of each instalment was not too much.

" On the non-credit side, the movement has made excellent, splendid and marvellous progress. Various kinds of societies are

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there like marketing societies, co-operative farming societies, weavers' societies, fishermen's societies, societies for Harijans, stores societies, producers-cum-consumers societies and societies for palm jaggery manufacture. Let me say a few words about the stores movement. Some of the stores are wholesale stores and some are primary stores. These stores came into existence after the advent of the War. There was scarcity of essential commodities and whatever quantity was available had to be distributed equitably. I will be failing in my duty if I do not extend my grateful thanks to those societies which rendered yeoman service during the last ten years. After the decontrol of foodgrains, the stores societies think that they have a gloomy future. On the 15th of July 1952, there was a conference of the representatives of these societies at which resolutions were passed suggesting the ways as to how best the societies could be successfully continued. The resolutions are before the Government and no decision has yet been taken. I assure the House that the Government will give their earnest consideration to those resolutions and suggestions and see that no injustice or undue loss is caused to those societies.

“ Let me come to the producers-cum-consumers co-operative societies. These societies were introduced for the first time in Malabar district in 1946. Later on, the system was extended to the coastal Andhra districts of, I think, East Godavari, West Godavari, Krishna and Guntur. Unfortunately these societies did not function well in that area. Therefore, a committee was appointed under the chairmanship of the late Sri T. A. Ramalingam Chettiar, a veteran co-operator of South India, to go into this question. The committee carefully examined the situation and recommended that the producers-cum-consumers societies should be converted into approved types of societies and handed over to the Co-operative department. In pursuance of that recommendation, out of 168 societies, 127 have been reorganized and handed over to the Co-operative department. The rest of the societies were liquidated on the specific request of the share-holders. But the producers-cum-consumers societies have functioned really creditably in the district of Malabar. They are still in existence there. They are about 107 in number. They are not under the control of the Registrar of Co-operative Societies, but are under the administrative control of the Collector of Malabar, who is vested with all the powers of the Registrar under the Co-operative Societies Act. There again, difficulty has arisen in regard to the future of these societies on account of derationing and decontrol of foodgrains. The matter is engaging the attention of the Government, and they will certainly go to their rescue.

1-20
p.m.

“ Let me say a word about the weavers' co-operative societies. There are 1,017 primary weavers' co-operative societies in this State of Madras. They have a central organization here known as the 'State Handloom Weavers' Co-operative Society, Limited.' The benefits that the handloom weavers get on account of their membership in these societies are many. For instance, in regard

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to the question of getting allotment of yarn, the members of these societies get 20 per cent more than those who are non-members. The progress of these societies can really be judged from the fact that they have been able, rather they have gained the strength which is sufficient for them, to establish or install a co-operative spinning mill in Guntakal. They have also decided to set up a similar mill somewhere in the south. So, I have absolutely no doubt that the co-operative movement has done a great deal for these weavers.

“ Before I conclude, let me say a word about cottage industries. Members belonging to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and members belonging to the backward communities feel that certain industries or professions are the monopoly of those communities. For instance, the Madigas in Andhra or the Chakkiliyars in Tamilnad have the cottage industry of tanning as their monopoly. No man in the State belonging to any other community is employed on this work. They feel that the Government should organize such societies and give them proper help. In this connexion, I should say that last year a sum of Rs. 45,000 was placed at the disposal of the Registrar to be given as subsidies to the societies of this cottage industry. I understand that a sum of about Rs. 23,000 has already been given away. The remainder would, of course, be utilized, this year. In addition to this, in the budget estimate of this year, we have made provision for Rs. 30,000 to be granted as loans to the societies of this cottage industry.

“ With regard to amelioration of ex-tappers, I really feel proud that this branch of the department has done praiseworthy work. The department has established 2,080 palm gur manufacture societies and has employed 1.71 lakhs of ex-tappers. There is a *scheme* called the palm gur development scheme. Under that scheme instructors are sent to impart training to these ex-tappers in improved methods of palm gur manufacture.

“ Sir, I am aware of the fact that the time allotted for this Demand is only two hours, and there are many hon. Members who are enthusiastic about taking part in the discussion on this Demand. I do not propose to take much of the time of the House. I think I have dealt with the salient points succinctly.

“ Before I conclude, I request you and the House to pardon me for any shortcomings on my part, as this is my maiden speech in this House. Thank you, Sir.” (Cheers.)

Mr. SPEAKER:—“ Motion moved—

‘ That the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 77,81,200 under Demand XX—Co-operation.’

I wish to know from the hon. Member Mr. Anthony Pillai whether he is formally moving his cut motion, or whether he intends to speak after moving the cut motion. If he wants to speak, he may move his cut motion now, and speak in the afternoon (after lunch). ”

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SRI S. C. C. ANTHONY PILLAI :—“ Sir, I am moving my cut motion formally. I request you to allow the hon. Member Dr. K. B. Menon to speak in the afternoon. Sir, I move—

‘ That the allotment of Rs. 77,81,200 for Co-operation be reduced by Rs. 100. ’ ”

MR. SPEAKER :—“ Motion moved—

‘ That the allotment of Rs. 77,81,200 for Co-operation be reduced by Rs. 100. ’

The discussion on the main motion and the cut motion will commence after lunch. The House will now rise and meet at 2-30 p.m.”

(After lunch—2-30 p.m.)

* DR. K. B. MENON :—“ Mr. Speaker, Sir, I wish to place before the House my criticism of the co-operative movement in the Madras State. While my criticism is general, my facts are almost exclusively drawn from my experiences in Malabar. That does not mean that I am not familiar with the working of the co-operative movement in places outside Malabar. I have with me reports of the working of the co-operative movement in other parts of the State also but those materials are undigested, as far as I am concerned, and I do not want facts about which I have no experience to go into record. Therefore, I shall draw my facts from Malabar only.

“ I appreciate and understand the enthusiasm and the eloquence of the young Minister with regard to his department. But I wish to submit that he has been in the saddle only for a short time and that he has not had time to hear the skeleton in the cupboard rattle. I am not going to rattle the whole skeleton nor have I the time to do it. But I shall place some of the facts before the Hon. Minister and whatever facts I place are the heritage of the last Ministry. The sins of the father should never be visited on the son but the son may correct them, as far as possible.

“ Sir, great hopes were raised when the Prakasam Ministry in 1946-47 made a gift of the producer-cum-consumer co-operative societies to Malabar. Those were hey-days of the Congress when Congressmen carried a great deal of goodwill with them and wherever they went, they were received well. When these societies were started, these Congressmen rushed into the market, cornered shares, tried to monopolise them, control them and run them. Fortune favoured them because those were rationing days. Rationing was handed over to the producers-cum-consumers co-operative societies and the producers-cum-consumers co-operative societies became fabulously rich. With the increase in the wealth of the co-operative societies, they began increasingly to reflect the mounting corruption, demoralisation and degradation in the country. These co-operatives became corrupt and all conceivable methods—some of them even unknown in the annals of crime—were used by them for selfish gains. False weights and measures were

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used, false cards were substituted, rice and other things that were brought into the co-operative societies for distribution were adulterated, and there were a number of things done in order to cheat the public. Very much worse than this was the large scale embezzlement of the funds of the co-operative societies by Presidents and Secretaries of those producers-cum-consumers. I have not with me figures of the last three or four years, but I have figures with me of the embezzlements that have taken place since last May, and I wish to place those figures before the Assembly. The following are the figures of embezzlements that have taken place :—

	RS.	
Eritty P.C.C. Society ..	51,000	
Pattambi P.C.C. Society ..	29,000	(first week of May)
Urban Bank	21,000	
Meenagadi P.C.C. Society (Wynaad) ..	60,000	
Parali P.C.C.	1,50,000	(the society, I understand, is under audit)
Chalasseri (in 1948) P.C.C. ..	26,000	(the Secretary is still absconding)
Calicut P.C.C.	500	
Chovva P.C.C.	70,000	

The figures are all correct, I believe, but I may be wrong in the dates, with regard to some of them. They may be checked. Now, I would like to know where the Registrar was, where the district authorities were, and where the persons in control were. These embezzlements have been going on for the last two, three, four years. Continuous embezzlement of public funds, I think, is inexcusable and the department should have taken care to see that these embezzlements are not repeated. The department is responsible to see that public money is not misappropriated, that the people are protected and that this kind of thing is not allowed to go on indefinitely. One can understand isolated cases of embezzlement in a few places, but this kind of thing continuously going on, I am afraid, shows the utter bankruptcy of the department. (At this stage, the Deputy Speaker occupied the Chair.)

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“ I know there was a bifurcation of responsibility. Divided responsibility means no responsibility. In this case, I understand the responsibility has been divided between the Collector and the department and probably that must have been one of the contributory causes for these embazzlements. These things are still going on and the department has not found a way out of them. Just before I left Malabar for this session, there was a meeting at Kozhikode to discuss something that had happened in the Produce

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Sales Society, Wynaad, where bags were filled with sand at the rate of 10 pounds per bag and there was an estimated loss of Rs. 14,000. Such incidents are still going on even to-day. Why is it that the Government have not done anything? The department did not think of ways and means to check such incidents. I understand that the presidents and secretaries of most of these societies have no stake in these societies except the share they hold. That is my information. Why is it that sufficient security has not been demanded from them in order to prevent this kind of embezzlements? The secretaries and presidents running away with the money belonging to these societies has become a common feature in Malabar. The demoralisation is very great. That is one aspect of the problem which I wish to present before the House. I understand that there is the Collector's order asking these societies to demand securities from secretaries and cash-keepers, but that order is observed more in the breach. To cite only one example, since a co-operative society was started at Kuruvannur in 1947, none of the secretaries have paid the full security and the clerk who is working as cash-keeper, I understand, has not deposited any security at all. When the rules are so wantonly violated, how can one expect the societies to run smoothly? I think it is the responsibility of the department to ensure efficiency and cleanliness in administration and when these are not there, the department has to give the reason why it is so.

“The Hon. Minister said that the producers-cum-consumers co-operative societies in Malabar—to use his own word—were ‘functioning creditably’. I do not think I can express the same sentiment on the floor of the House, knowing as I do so much about the working of the co-operative societies in Malabar. Another factor that has contributed to the inefficiency of the co-operative societies in Malabar is probably the combination and concentration of various offices of various societies in one and the same person. I shall not go into details again, but I shall be satisfied with citing only one or two instances. The president of the Malabar Produce Sales Society is on the executive of the District Bank which is the financing bank of that society. He is also the President of the Wholesale Society, which also is financed by the District Bank. Then there is another gentleman who is on the executive of the District Bank, on the executive of the Co-operative Printing Works, on the executive of the milk society, on the executive of the Produce Sales Society, and I should say that there is no important executive in Malabar on which he is not a member. These are the persons who are called the fathers of the co-operative movement in Malabar. We must remember that they are also the fathers of corruption in the co-operative movement in Malabar. They monopolise the important places in most of the co-operative societies with the result that the co-operatives have become the happy hunting grounds in cities of industrialists and in the mufassal of feudal interests. Most of these persons who are occupying key positions in the various co-operatives are big businessmen and they control the whole co-operative movement and through these institutions they are able

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to divert trade and canalise finance and also direct business in such a way as to favour themselves and their friends. There are many other items of corruption which are going on and I do not think I have either the time or the wish to speak about them here. I know very many petty things that are going on and I think it is better that I do not say anything about them.

“ Yet another way in which corruption is encouraged in the co-operative societies in Malabar is through delaying the holding of annual general body meetings. These societies have become the exclusive preserve of a few. Membership is often refused and shares are not made available to others. I am not talking on this on a theoretical basis. I myself have had personal experience. I wanted to get into some of the societies, but I was refused a share. The refusal did not come in a categorical way saying that I would not be given a share. A copy of the resolution was forwarded to me saying that shares were not available and would be made available only to institutions and not individuals. Immediately I sent word to the president of the wholesale society and said that I would resort to law Court if a share was refused. The next day, shares were allotted to me. That is the way in which things are being carried on in these co-operative societies. They want to keep it the preserve of a favoured few. They do not like new blood to come in. It is after all a democratic movement, and everybody who wants to have shares in such societies must be allotted shares. There is some meaning in saying that shares will not be allotted to those who are mentally defective and to those who are bankrupt. To refuse shares to anybody on the ground that they are trouble-creators is very wrong. Anybody who opposes them is branded as trouble-creator. I think that is the definition that these presidents and secretaries of these co-operative societies give. It is most unfair.

“ I can quote another example and it is that of the Kuttipuram Co-operative Society which I wish to cite as a case in point. When I toured that place, I received complaints from many persons that shares were refused to them. I also understand that elections are postponed. According to the Constitution, it is imperative that election must be held every year. Some societies do not hold elections. They postpone elections indefinitely. The Kuttipuram society election is long overdue. I think I sent a note to the Collector on this matter. There was a case referred to adjudication in connexion with an election quarrel. At most of the meetings of these co-operative societies pandemonium breaks out and police have to intervene. The same is the case with many of the co-operative societies. In a society in Shoranur, a similar incident took place and the police, who intervened to restore order, arrested some Congressmen, who were, I think, later rescued by the Minister on a telephone call. These things are happening regularly in the co-operative societies. I do not know whether the Registrar of Co-operative Societies is aware of all these incidents and, if he is aware, I do not know whether he has taken any steps to make these meetings peaceful so that members could express

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their views freely. I think a dispute arising from one of the meetings in Kuttipuram society has been referred to adjudication and the D.S.O. has been consistently postponing adjudication though it is more than a year. Such incidents which are taking place in the co-operative societies must be put a stop to.

“ Lastly, about the method in which amendments to bye-laws are brought about in the societies in Malabar, I wish to say a few words. There is an amendment, which I was told, has been forwarded by the Registrar of Co-operative Societies for incorporation in the bye-laws of the societies in Malabar. In the first place, I do not know whether it is right on the part of the Registrar to send any amendments to be incorporated in the bye-laws. I know the procedure that is adopted in the passing of these bye-laws. These bye-laws are drafted and forwarded to the Registrar to see whether they are repugnant to the law of the land. After scrutiny, if he finds that they are not repugnant to the law of the land, they are placed before the meeting and passed at the meeting.

“ Instead, the Registrar seems to be taking upon himself the responsibility of initiating some of these bye-laws. I am speaking with authority on this subject, because it was my own personal experience. I would not have minded these amendments if the Registrar or his office thought over and were convinced that they were progressive, well-meant and conducive to the growth of the movement. I shall presently read out from the report of one of the societies in Malabar what kind of amendments were proposed by the Registrar and you can judge for yourself whether they were such as would help the movement. I was present at the annual meeting of the Co-operative Stores, Kozhikode, where the same kind of bye-laws were moved and I opposed them. In the Milk Society, they were introduced and passed by the casting vote of the President. Let me now read the amendment proposed by the Registrar:—

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‘ Bye-law 18 C—No paid employee shall be a member, representative or officer of any association representing or purporting to represent non-official co-operative employees, unless such association satisfies the following conditions:—

(i) The association should be recognised by the Registrar of Co-operative Societies, Madras.

(ii) Membership of the association shall be confined to only the employees of co-operative institutions.

(iii) The activities of the association shall be confined to the betterment of the prospects of employment, service conditions, emoluments and the welfare of its members generally.

(iv) The association shall not be in any way connected with or affiliated to (a) any association which does not or (b) any federation of associations which does not satisfy condition (i).’

The last condition means that the federation or association should have been recognized by the Registrar of Co-operative Societies. It is obvious at whom this amendment is aimed. It is aimed at the trade union movement in our country. It is aimed at crippling the trade union movement. It is intended to prevent co-operative employees from joining unions that are not recognized by the Registrar. I am afraid the amendment contravenes Articles 19 (c) of the Constitution which gives every citizen of India the right of association. I do not know how the Registrar can prevent

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members of the staff of any co-operative society or store from joining associations which are not recognized by him. I know for certain that this is intended to cripple the trade unions. As I have said, I was one of the persons who fought against it and threw it out at one of the Stores' meetings in Kozhikode. If that is the way the co-operative movement is run and if that is the way the Registrar should interfere with the working of societies, I am sure the movement will fail. I shall read the very first sentence from the latest report of the Co-operative Registrar. The very first sentence is that the co-operative movement aims at establishing a new economic order. If this is the economic order that the movement proposes to establish, then I should despair of the future. If this is the new economic order that the Registrar proposes to inaugurate in this State, I certainly would not want that kind of economic order. I protest against the undue interference of the Registrar with these societies, an interference which is not conducive to the progress of the movement. It is an interference which is retrograde and reactionary and which retards the progress of the great movement. I am interested in the co-operative movement. It has a very great future and as the Hon. Minister has pointed out, it is a movement that deserves every support from the people and it is destined to play a very great role in the future of our country. Whether we are going to have a Co-operative Commonwealth which the Congress claims as its objective or whether we try to establish a Welfare State, the co-operative movement is bound to play an important role and unless and until we build up a healthy movement, we will not progress. The first and basic essential for the success of the movement is that it should be treated as a people's movement. That is what the co-operative movement is. If there is interference from above, frequent meddling, the movement will be crippled. That was why in British days, it was not a success. We expected, however, after we gained independence, that we would turn over a new leaf and that the Co-operative Department would really be the guide, friend and philosopher of the movement. But that has not happened. I hope that the Hon. Minister would take more interest in the movement and institute an enquiry, a searching enquiry, into the working of the "producer-cum-consumer societies in Malabar. I have first-hand knowledge of their working and I do not know much about other places. I hope he will institute an enquiry and see that the evils that are present in the movement are removed and that the movement makes a substantial contribution to the economic regeneration of Malabar."

* SRI K. KRISHNA RAO:—"Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we have a co-operative movement in Madras State and it is of significance not merely to Madras but also to the whole of India because there was a day when the co-operative movement in this State, more particularly in Andhra, was a democratic movement, a people's movement, where the Registrar and his retinue had absolutely no place except as, for example, a sub-registrar who simply registers. This is also the position in any other country."

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The trade union movement and the co-operative movement are twin movements; they are movements of the people and it is there that the fullest amount of democracy actually functions. But here, we have been seeing from 1940 onwards that whatever these people do only amounts to the murder of democracy. I wonder whether Hitler and Mussolini took their lessons from the Registrar of Co-operative Societies at Chepauk because in a corporate State, co-operatives have been made mere stooges of the ruling Nazi Government. I find that the same methods used by Hitler and Mussolini are exactly repeated by the Registrar. They are exactly a replica of the Hitlerian methods. One of my friends from China was telling me that he wondered whether these people were the Gurus of the Registrar or the Registrar was their Guru. Let us see how things have been going on with this movement. It is a very great movement. This is the opinion shared by very many people in our State. It was Dewan Bahadur Ramachandra Rao that said at the Co-operative Central Banks' Conference that the Co-operative Department was its Enemy No. 1. He said it was the Fifth Columnist against the co-operative movement. From the very beginning they have been saying and Mr. Wolf, who is an authority on this subject in India, was saying that the Co-operative Department had absolutely no place in the movement in India. Of course, the British Government were saying that we were backward and so we could not make much progress. But that was all propaganda and they said so in order to remain here for a few more years. Well, it was Mr. Ramachandra Rao and Mr. Audinarayana Chetty who said that the whole Department would be wound up by 1922 or so. In fact, they thought that the Co-operative Department would be wound up in 1924 or 1925. Mr. Wolf was also glad that they were preparing a non-official machinery for running the movement. We find in Rasipuram in Salem district a number of institutions, people's institutions, have been reared up with the sole purpose of running the movement under the guidance of Mr. Audinarayana Chetty and Ramachandra Rao. But our Ministers tell us that they took over all these powers from the British Government and the entire powers are now with the Department. What is the exact position to-day?

“The Hon. Minister was not ashamed to tell us of the dumping of co-operative officials in the year 1952, these unwanted men, on all societies. In the year 1952 the number of Deputy Registrars dumped is 20. It was just one in the year 1946. We have increased these fascist co-operators 20 times. The Sub-Registrars were 39 in number and it is 139 now which represents an increase of about 4 times. The Senior Inspectors' number has gone up to 624 from 67. It must be remembered that all these increases were made during the time our Hon. Ministers were in office and not during the regime of the Advisers. This is the way we are going, and removing the non-official element in co-operation. One of the ways by which Government have been crippling the movement is to have these stooges of the Government party in every co-operative society. In fact, they have installed in this Department the very

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system of nomination. Is this our ancient tradition, I ask? From the time of the Minto-Morley Reforms we have been saying that we should not have anything to do with nomination. We opposed the system of nomination to the District Boards, to the Municipalities and all that. Then our Friends would not like our Ministers to be nominated by Mr. Churchill. Now when they are put to the real test, they are nominating these officials in considerable numbers to the co-operative societies. The very reason that Hon. the Chief Minister had to seek nomination to the Council and then take charge of Government has introduced that principle into this Department, namely, to have nominations to these co-operative societies. Are we going to have Fascism, I ask?

“ Another point is this. Government in 1920 were saying that they were doing a lot of benefit to the co-operative movement, free registration, free audit, etc. The position then was, the Department was giving something to this movement. But now this movement furnishes a big revenue to the Government. They want thus to cripple the movement. Let me tell you that in 1939-40 the revenue derived from the co-operative movement was Rs. 3.84 lakhs. Would you believe me, Sir, when I say that today the revenue derived by the Department is Rs. 25.58 lakhs? The very laws of co-operation are violated. It is said that the Communists are lawless people. In fact, if lawlessness is the monopoly of anybody, it is that of the Registrar of Co-operative Societies.

“ Inspection, supervision, and education are the functions of the co-operative movement. Some of the hon. Members perhaps know the history of the co-operative movement. The Justice Party, which was afraid of the people's power, liquidated the Federations because they said this movement would be the focus of the people's liberation struggle. But what do these people who fought for the independence of the land do now? They tell us that the function of the Department is to supervise, inspect and educate, and they charge the societies for all these. I ask in all seriousness whether the Government are not violating the Constitution? Under Article 265 of the Constitution, the Government have no power to charge for these. They have no right to tax people unless they have an Act. The Co-operative Societies Act does not entitle the Government to tax for supervision, inspection and education, because they are not the functions of Government. The Department is doing another thing. They are taking over the management of societies into their hands on the ground that they are inefficiently managed. The people who run the societies are competent enough to elect legislators, to elect Ministers but they are considered to be inefficient to elect their own Directors. This is the kind of education that these people are giving. I would like to ask, what is the reason for all this? The Government want to afford shelter to the vested interests. Let us take the Co-operative Stores Movement. The one reason why the Registrar took over the functioning of the stores was, if it was entrusted to the Co-operative Central Banks, they would do it in a democratic way. Democracy is their biggest enemy, as also of the Hon. Sri

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Rajagopalachari. It is not Communists who are his enemies but it is democracy that is his enemy, though he might talk about God and all that. It is all bunkum, we know. What is it that they are doing with regard to the co-operative credit movement? We say that the irresponsible lender must be controlled by the borrower. Why do we say it? It is because debt slavery is the biggest of curses. Our freedom struggle began with a fight against debt slavery. The national movement for freedom began with the Santhal rebellion, the fight of the indigo ryots against debt slavery. The co-operative movement said: 'Let there be no irresponsible lending'. We said: 'Don't put shackles round every borrower. But do you know what is happening now? The Government are going on granting takkavi loans, well improvement loans, and all that. Do you know why? They want to keep the ruling party in power. Their theory is: 'Because I give you loan, I should be voted to power.' Mr. Chandramouli should be voted to power because he gives loans. But I ask, is it he that gives the loans? It is not his money or his grand-papa's money that he gives as loan. It is people's money. But we, ordinary people, rustics, are made to believe that it is his money that is given as loans. If he is voted to power, the people who elect him get loans. That is the way the Government do it now. Great co-operators like Messrs. Ramachandra Rao, Vedachala Iyer and Audinarayana Chettiar were saying that if the Government wanted to give takkavi loans, well improvement loans, etc., they must give these loans through the Co-operative Societies because they did not want any irresponsible lending. Debt is the biggest tyrant in the whole world. Actually the Government passed the Agriculturists' Debt Relief Act. Why is it a failure? Why is Prohibition a failure? Because they are not based on the democratic support of the people. Mr. Ramachandra Rao brought about Prohibition in Rasipuram area. In fact, there was no Prohibition Act at that time. How did he succeed? He brought about co-operation among people and told them that drinking was a bad thing. He organized a big movement of the people and so he succeeded. But our people now in power do not want such a movement to grow because the agricultural labourers may ask for more wages, and because wages meant touching the pockets of big zamindars. As they are against democracy they want to curtail the growth of democratic movements.

"Then what about the Co-operative Consumers' Societies about which the Hon. Minister waxed eloquent. There has not been any progress at all. I know, as a matter of fact, many people want Co-operative Consumers' Societies. But the Government do not want it because they do not want to make it a mass movement. The Directors for the first five years are to be nominated by the Registrar. This is a trick to create a vested interest just for five years and then perpetuate it just as the present Ministry remained in office for two months in the first instance, increased its voting strength and now flourishes on the Confidence Motion. Just the same trick is played there also. Everybody knows it. In the co-operative stores, zamindars have been put in, men who are fossils

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of Indian society and who ought to have been put into the dust heap of Indian history long long ago. The Advisers did want them and these people now want them; they want to entrust most of these things to the decaying elements in our society, namely, the feudal landlords and big black-marketeers. That is how the co-operative movement is managed.

"I was glad to hear the hon. Member Mr. Menon talking about the co-operative movement and the union of employees and all that. He said that the Registrar wanted to have the non-official co-operative employees as his own slaves and he said unless the unions were recognized by him, they would not be allowed to form unions at all. My point is, do we have a union first or recognition first? People should join and then form into an association, frame by-laws and all that and then ask for recognition. But according to the Registrar, they must first obtain recognition and then form the association. Where are we living, I ask. Are we standing on our head or on our feet? This is the way in which the entire co-operative movement is going on. The result is, the credit structure has broken down instead of going higher and higher. The credit structure is languishing. It is up to the Co-operative Department to change the order of things. To-day the Pathan money-lender charges and takes 200 per cent interest from many of the people of the ranks of the Non-Gazetted Officers who go to them for money. These Pathans are having a flourishing trade. What has the co-operative movement done for these poor employees? It is a public responsibility. The co-operative movement was started by great men in 1904, if I remember aright, to be worked on democratic principles. They believed in the people.

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"But now these men want to tell us that it is only the Registrar and the Government that know something of co-operation and that they alone can manage and not ordinary men. I may say, Sir, that an ordinary man knows more about co-operation than all the Registrars and the Hon. Ministers put together, because here in Madras it was not the Registrars and the Government that gave fillip to the co-operative movement; it was the ordinary Madrassi men that had organised Nidhis and Permanent Funds that brought up the co-operative movement; it was not imported from Britain, much less from Germany. The three great principles of co-operation viz., open membership, democratic control and one man one vote, are entirely relegated to the background. What we now find in the co-operative movement is the law of the jungle. It is only the will of the Registrar that simply dominates; he issues a circular and the whole thing is done.

"Then, Sir, I wish to say a few words in regard to auditing. Many of the co-operative societies are managed by some of the departmental officers. I was told that the Provincial Co-operative Society of Handloom Weavers is headed by a Joint Registrar and the accounts are audited by one of his Senior Inspectors: the Senior Inspector is always a very subordinate and *salaming* official of the Joint Registrar and the Deputy Registrars. If there is anything wrong in the accounts, he puts on a blind eye and passes the whole

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account. If the accounts are really audited by independent auditors, a number of defalcations will come to light. This is not fiction. There was a Marketing Society which was kept under the tutelage of departmental officers; there was a big scandal and much money was swindled away. Again, the Christian Co-operative Bank was managed by departmental officers, one of those departmental officers ate away the money, spent two years in jail and came out all the richer. Therefore, Sir, the Government are allowing the auditing to be done by the very same people who are in charge of the management. Sir, the Hon. Minister is very glad to tell us that he has put a number of co-operative societies under the charge of the Department. Don't they know, Sir, that they are ruining the co-operative movement? If they want to extend the co-operative movement on democratic lines, could they not find men who can run them? Can't we get persons of honesty to serve our co-operative societies? If that is really the view of the Ministry, I would very seriously ask them to have an I.C.S. officer as Secretary of the All-India Congress Committee. That will be the best thing. They must know that co-operation is a people's movement and democratic movement. Previously it had all the force and vigour; there were co-operative conferences and they could discuss their problems; the ryots from the village and the man from the office could join together on a common platform to discuss how to improve the working of the co-operative societies; but a virtual section 144 order was served on these conferences and by a series of stratagems, holding such conferences was rendered extremely difficult; so they could not meet at all and even if they met, they were called communist manoeuvres and so on and so forth. The Co-operative and Police Departments were agents-provocateur and the members were arrested. That was the way in which the co-operative movement had been going on; I know cases where people, if they began to talk about democracy in the co-operative conferences, were promptly warned, 'just take care of yourself' and those were days of Public Safety Ordinance and Preventive Detention Ordinance, etc. A mere warning from an officer was enough to put one in jail. This kind of ruthless trampling of human rights must be put an end to if the co-operative movement should not become a caricature or a misnomer or a lifeless thing. I don't mind the Local Bodies having Commissioners. I don't mind the District Boards having nominated members. But, in the case of co-operative movement, it is different; it has a very great future; it is a great movement that is going to help our cultivators and liberate us from the bondage—and the kind of bondage that exists in our country is colossal. I hope that the broad democratization of our co-operative movement will be attended to."

* SRI PRAGADA KOTAIAH:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to make certain suggestions for the careful consideration of the Government. I know, Sir, the co-operative movement in our State is doing some good to the agriculturists and the artisans in the villages. The co-operative movement in general may be broadly divided into two sections, agricultural and non-agricultural.

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Societies started for the benefit of agriculturists are mainly co-operative credit societies on unlimited liability basis. Sir, there are more than 16,000 co-operative credit societies in our State; but the progress of these societies in the recent years is not encouraging as ryots are afraid of becoming members of these societies. Why are they afraid? According to the present bye-laws of the societies, when certain members draw loans from them and are not able to repay them, the societies will proceed against those members who have got properties and make them responsible for all the loans drawn by certain other members. Therefore, I suggest that the co-operative credit societies should be converted into societies on limited liability basis where the liability of each member is limited to his paid-up share capital. When this is done, I feel, Sir, there will be no need for the existence of Loan and Sale Societies and Marketing Societies which are also started for the benefit of the ryots and which advance loans against the produce of the ryots. Therefore, if the co-operative credit societies are started on limited liability basis, the main features of the Loan and Sale Societies and Marketing Societies can be incorporated in the by-laws of the co-operative credit societies and they can also be conveniently entrusted with the distribution of iron, agricultural implements, fertilizers and other improved agricultural appliances required by the ryots. Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Government to one other important point in this connection. I know, Sir, Mr. Subramaniam Naidu, the Joint Registrar of Co-operative Societies has, with much pains, started a Rural Co-operative Urban Bank on limited liability basis at Kovvur, West Godavari district. It is functioning well; it has been doing all the activities of a co-operative credit society, of an Urban Bank, of a Loan and Sale Society and of a Marketing Society. Therefore, I press that the Government should see that the Co-operative credit societies are converted into Rural Co-operative Banks on limited liability basis.

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“With regard to long-term loans, the Hon. Minister was referring this morning to the Land Mortgage Banks. I do admit they are rendering a real service to the agriculturists by providing them with long-term loans. But the number of primary land mortgage banks is very limited. For the whole of the Madras State there are only about 119 to 120 such banks. There is the imperative need that primary land mortgage banks should be organized in all the districts of the State at the rate of at least one bank in each revenue firka. The ryots are also complaining that the loans applied for by them are not disbursed to them in time. The Department should see that the central as well as the primary banks function in such a manner that they could disburse the loans to the ryots in time.

“Government can also successfully depend on co-operative societies for growing more food. In every district there are thousands of acres of waste land lying uncultivated. The landless and the landlords are quarrelling against one another, as to who should occupy these waste lands. I suggest that a Special Deputy Registrar may be placed in charge of every district under the

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Collector. They could take the necessary particulars of the extent of waste lands in their districts and form land colonization co-operative societies for the benefit of landless agriculturists. This will bring waste lands under the plough and incidentally relieve unemployment among landless labourers. The formation of land colonization societies may also create peaceful atmosphere in the villages.

“ With regard to weavers’ Co-operative Societies, the weavers can really be proud of their achievements. About three lakhs of handloom weavers are to-day working in weavers’ co-operative societies. The Hon. the Minister for Co-operation was saying this morning that the weavers in co-operative societies were getting 20 per cent extra yarn over and above the yarn being supplied to card-holders. This is not correct. I had proved that to be false by furnishing the figures earlier. I had also furnished the Hon. the Minister for Industries with the necessary facts. As against the monthly minimum demand of 10,000 bales, the weavers’ co-operative societies in Madras State got only 2,234 bales during the previous month. This clearly shows that the Government are not taking real interest in supplying adequate quantities of yarn to the weavers’ co-operative societies. Instead of helping these primary weavers’ co-operative societies, Government are using them as a source of income. The Government are collecting supervision fees at the rate of 2 per cent on profits made by the societies. They are also collecting audit fees which go in certain cases up to two thousand rupees. The departmental people in certain places are compelling the primary weavers’ societies to appoint auditors under Fundamental Rule 127 and maintain the costly departmental auditors. They are collecting sales tax both on yarn and handloom cloth. In addition to all these, they are also collecting licence fees under the General Sales Tax Act from the weavers, co-operative societies. When such is the case, how can they say that they are helping the weavers’ co-operative societies? When I said that the weavers’ co-operative societies were not having adequate finances, our Industries Minister was saying that they could borrow from banks. But I am sorry to say that the Hon. Minister is not aware of the fact that many of the central banks have refused to give financial help to these societies. In East Godavari, the Kakinada Central Co-operative Bank had refused to render financial accommodation to thirty weavers’ co-operative societies. We have brought this to the notice of the Registrar of Co-operative Societies, and also to the notice of the Government. But so far the Government have not taken any action. On the other hand, they are helping the big industries through the Industrial Finance Corporation. I request that a Cottage Industries Finance Corporation may be set up so that primary weavers’ co-operative societies could be rendered financial help in time of need.

“ I shall say a few words about our Textile Institute. This is now under the charge of the Industries Department. I plead that the same should be transferred to the Co-operative Department, for the following reason: An experimental section could be opened in the Government Textile Institute to invent new designs and

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manufacture samples accordingly. These samples could be distributed to the primary weavers' co-operative societies. When the Government place orders with the primary weavers' co-operative societies for their requirements of textile goods, the Registrar can get all the samples prepared in the experimental section and distribute them to the primary weavers' co-operative societies for execution. This will help the handloom weavers' co-operative societies to a very great extent.

"Of late we find that the Industrial Co-operative Societies have increased in large numbers in our State. To promote the speedy growth of industrial co-operative societies, including weavers' co-operatives, a separate Registrar may be appointed.

"The Government are at present spending about ten lakhs of rupees on the Khadi scheme but the results are not satisfactory. The Hon. the Minister for Co-operation was saying that the Government are giving adequate help to the Khadi producing societies. There are at present two such societies, one in Peturu and the other in Isukapalli. These Khadi producing societies have approached the Government for financial assistance. Government have not afforded any help. They have not advanced even a single pie. I, therefore request the Government to render financial assistance to these khadi producing societies to meet at least establishment charges and thus encourage their rapid growth in our State.

"I want to bring to the notice of Government the plight of a large number of Madigas in Andhradesa. They are shoemakers. Only some of them are employed in shoe companies. If the Government were to form shoemakers' co-operative societies, it will serve a two-fold purpose. The production of shoes could be increased and also a large number of Madigas would find employment. The Government can also place orders with these societies for their requirements. I trust the Government will carefully consider this matter and arrive at a decision soon."

3-30
p.m.

* SRI B. K. NALLASWAMI :—"கனம் உதவி சபாநாயகர் அவர்களே, இந்த கூட்டுறவு மானியத்தை ஆதரித்துச் சில வார்த்தைகள் பேச விரும்புகிறேன்.

"இந்த மானியத்தை பிரேரேபித்த மந்திரி அவர்கள் கூட்டுறவினால் நம்முடைய நாட்டையே நிர்ணயிப்பதற்கான திட்டங்களைச் செய்யலாமென்று குறிப்பிட்டார்: வாஸ்தவம் தான். ஆனால் அதிலே இருக்கக்கூடிய பல குறைபாடுகளை நீக்கினாலன்றி அதனால் புரண பலன் திடக்கூடாது என்பதை விளக்கி சில வார்த்தைகள் சொல்ல விரும்புகிறேன். டாக்டர் மேனனுக்கு ஏற்பட்ட அனுபவத்தைப் போலவே எனக்கும் அனுபவம் ஏற்பட்டிருக்கிறது கூட்டுறவு சங்கத்திலே 1933-ம் வருஷம் அங்கத்தினராகச் சேருவதற்கு விண்ணப்பம் போட்டேன். எடுத்துக் கொள்ளவில்லை. தள்ளிவிட்டார்கள் அதற்குப் பிறகு பல தடவைகள் கோவாப்பேட்டில் ரிஜிஸ்ட்ரார் அவர்களையும் மற்றும் பலரையும் பார்த்தும், எங்களைச் சேர்த்துக் கொள்ள மறுக்கிறார்கள் என்றும் சொன்னோம். அதோடு நிர்வாகத்தில் இருக்கக்கூடிய ஊழல்களை எடுத்துக் காட்டினோம். பிணியிலோன்கள், அதாவது பொய்யாக கடன் கொடுத்திருப்பதைப் போன்ற பல குற்றங்களைக் காட்டினோம். அக் குற்றங்களையெல்லாம் ஒத்துக் கொண்டார்களே தவிர எங்களை மாத்திரம் அங்கத்தினராக சேர்த்துக் கொள்ளவில்லை. அட்வைசர் அட்சிசில், எங்களை மெம்பர்களாக எடுத்துக்கொள்ளா விட்டால் அவர்களையே நீக்கிவிடு

28th July 1952] [Sri B. K. Nallaswami]

வேமம் என்பதாக நோட்டீஸ் வந்த பிறகு தான் எங்களை எடுத்துக் கொண்டார்கள். இன்னும் எங்கள் ஊரில் நூற்றுக்கணக்கான பேர்கள் நில அடமான பாங்கு, அர்ப்பன் பங்கு போன்றவைகளில் அங்கத்தினர்கள் சேர முடியாத நிலைமையில் இப்பொழுது இருக்கக்கூடிய சட்டம் இருந்து வருகிறது மிகவும் துர்பாக்கியமான நிலைமையாகும். ஒவ்வொரு ஜனநாயக ஸ்தாபனத்திலும் நாட்டில் இருக்கக்கூடிய மக்கள் அனைவரும் சேருவதற்கு உரிமையிருக்கிறது. படித்தவர்கள், திறமையுள்ளவர்கள் யாவரும் அதில் பணியாற்ற சந்தர்ப்பம் கொடுக்கப்படவேண்டும். “எங்கள் கூட்டுறவு சங்கத்தில் எல்லா மெம்பர்களும் பேசி முடிந்த பிறகு தான் கூட்டத்தின் முடிவு அறிக்கை சமர்ப்பிக்கப்படும்”, என்று எதிர் கட்சித் தலைவர் மற்றொரு சந்தர்ப்பத்தில் சொன்னார்கள். ஆனால் எங்கள் ஊரிலே, பேச்சுக்கூடிய திறமை வாய்ந்தவர்களாய் இருந்தால் அவர்கள் அங்கத்தினர்களாகச் சேர்த்துக் கொள்ளப்படுவது கிடையாது. எங்கள் ஊரில் யாரையும் காரண மில்லாமல் நீ கில்டலாம் என்று சொல்லி அதை நக்கி விடுகிறார்கள். எல்கஷன் நடக்கிறதென்றால் தகப்பனார், மாமனார் மருமகன் என்று பரம்பரையாக நிர்வாகிகள் வரும்போது வெளிப்படையாக கைதூக்கும் முறையில் தேர்தல் நடைபெறும் பொழுது அந்த நிர்வாகிகளுக்கு வி ராதமாக கையைத் தூக்கினால் மறுபடியும் கைகிடைக்குமா, கிடைக்காது என்று யோசிக்க வேண்டியதாக அங்கத்தினர்கள் இருக்கிறார்கள். இப்படிப்பட்ட நிலையில் நடக்கிற கூட்டுறவு இயக்கம் ஜனநாயக முறையில் நடக்கிறதென்று எப்படிச் சொல்ல முடியும்? இதை அரசாங்கம் சிந்தித்துப் பார்க்கவேண்டும். இதற்கெல்லாம் அடிப்படையான சட்டத்திற்கு திருத்தம் செய்யவேண்டியது தான். டாக்டர் மேனனைப் போன்றவர்கள் கோர்ட்டுக்குச் சென்று தங்கள் காரியத்தைச் சாதித்துக்கொண்டு விடலாம். ஆனால் சாதாரண மக்கள் அது மாதிரி கோர்ட்டுக்குச் சென்று காரியத்தைச் சாதித்துக் கொள்ள முடியுமாவென்று பார்க்கவேண்டும். கூட்டுறவு சங்கத்தில் யாரையும் சேர்த்துக் கொள்ளலாம் என்ற அடிப்படை உரிமையை மறுக்கக் கூடிய வகையில் இருக்கும் இந்தச் சட்டத்தை முதலில் திருத்தியாக வேண்டும். அதை மாற்றியமைப்பதற்கு வேண்டிய முயற்சியை இந்த அரசாங்கம் எடுத்துக் கொள்ளவேண்டும். (நேரம் ஆகிவிட்டது என்பதற்காக சபாநாயகர் மனியை அடித்தார்.)

“தலைவர் அவர்களே, நான் பல விஷயங்களைப் பற்றி பேசுவதற்கு எண்ணினேன். நான் குறித்துக் கொண்டிருக்கும் விஷயங்களில் ஒரு சிலவற்றைக் கூட இன்னும் சொல்லியாகவில்லை, இருந்தாலும் சூர நிமிஷத்தில் முடித்துக் கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

“அதோடு எங்கள் தொகுதியிலுள்ள டாக்டர் மலைப்பிரதேசமாக இருக்கிறது. அங்கேயுள்ள விவசாயிகளுக்கு ஒரு நூறு ரூபாய் கொடுத்துவிட்டு 2 மூட்டை ராகியையும், ஒரு ஜோடி மாட்டையும் வட்டியாக எடுத்துக்கொண்டு போகிறான் லேவாதேவிகாரன். அந்த இடத்திலே ஒரு கூட்டுறவு ஸொஸைட்டியை ஏற்படுத்த வேண்டுமென்றால், அந்த இடத்தில் தங்களுக்கு வேண்டியவர்கள் இருக்கிறார்களா? தங்களுக்குச் சாதகமாகவே வேண்டுமோ போடுவார்களா? என்றெல்லாம் பார்த்துக் கொண்டு அப்படி யாரும் இல்லையென்றால் ஏற்படுத்தக் கூடாது என்று அதை ஏற்படாதபடி செய்து விடுகிறார்கள். சங்கங்களில் பதவி வகிப்பவர்களின் பிடிப்புப் அதிகாரமும் நிரந்தரமாகக் இருக்கக் கூடிய வகையில், இன்று கூட்டுறவு இயக்கம் நடக்கிறதே தவிர ஜனநாயக முறையில் நடப்பதாகத் தெரியவில்லை. ஜனநாயக முறையில் எல்லா மக்களுக்கும் உபயோகப்படக்கூடிய முறையில், எல்லா மக்களும் அங்கத்தினராகச் சேர்ந்து கொள்ளத்தக்க முறையில் இந்தச் சட்டத்தைத் திருத்தி அமைக்க அரசாங்கம் முன் வரவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக் கொண்டு, இன்றைய தினம் அந்த நிர்வாகத்திலிருக்கிற குறைபாடுகளை நிவர்த்திக்க எக்ஸ்பிரியூடிவ்விஸ் இருக்கிறவர்களும் முயற்சி செய்யவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக் கொண்டு நான் இந்த மானியத்தை ஆதிக்கிறேன்.”

* SRI A. RAMACHANDRA REDDIAR:—“Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, while supporting this Demand, I should like to give a few suggestions to the Government. For quick disposal of loan

[Sri A. Ramachandra Reddiar]

[28th July 1952]

applications in Co-operative Land Mortgage Banks, each Co-operative Sub-Registrar must be put in charge of only two banks and not more than two. I request Government to place the services of as many Sub-Registrars as are required for this purpose at the disposal of the Registrar to facilitate such quick disposal. Since there is no provision in the bye-laws of the Co-operative Central Land Mortgage Bank for postponement of instalments during times of famine, drought, and such other calamities, the Central Land Mortgage Bank, Madras, requested the Government from 1949 to create a revolving fund to help them in the matter. I find the Government have provided Rs. 5 lakhs this year and I thank them for it. They have also given instructions that the amount should be used for such of those as have not paid their instalments in May 1952 and August 1952. In this connection, I should like to plead for those who have not paid their instalments in November 1951. The benefit must be given to them also, and I request the Government to place some more amount at the disposal of the Central Land Mortgage Bank, to help such people, since I hear some of the banks are foreclosing the loans and trying to collect the amounts.

“ In our State several zamindari areas and mittas have not yet been surveyed. Because of the fact that they have not been surveyed, the Central Land Mortgage Bank's facilities cannot be extended to such areas. I request the Government to take up the survey of the zamindari areas and mittas, so that there also people may have the benefit of the Land Mortgage Bank movement. Government should give definite instructions to district officers not to grant loans on lands already hypothecated to Land Mortgage Banks, since such lands should not be subjected to second mortgage. In spite of our advice, borrowers from the Land Mortgage Banks go for a second loan to the Tahsildar or Revenue Divisional Officer who, indiscriminately, without taking care or seeing whether there is any other encumbrance on the lands, grant second loans, and create a second mortgage on the same lands. Actually, when a Government loan is given, it becomes the first charge; and the Land Mortgage Bank loan comes only as the second charge. It is, therefore, risky for the Government to give a second loan on lands which have been already mortgaged to the banks, inasmuch as the Government have given a guarantee on the debentures of the Madras Central Land Mortgage Bank both for interest and for principal.

“ Regarding short-term loans, the interest on loans given by co-operative societies for agricultural purposes is $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent at present. I request the Government to see that the interest is brought down and it does not exceed six per cent.

“ Again, in every district, there should be a society for the supply of oil engines and pump sets, on the loan system, the cost to be paid in six or several years. There is one such society in the North Arcot district which has been financed by the North Arcot Central Bank, of which our Deputy Speaker happens to be the President.

28th July 1952] [Sri A. Ramachandra Reddiar]

"Regarding elections to the co-operative societies, I would request the Government to see that uniform rules are framed for the election of office-bearers of all co-operative institutions, and to provide that all voting in the elections should be by secret ballot and not by the lifting of hands.

"In this connexion, I would request the Government to see that multi-directorship in the State co-operative institutions is discouraged. I suggest that one and the same person should not be elected to more than one executive committee of the institutions.

"In regard to co-operative stores, if all persons who want to become members cannot become members, they should be taken as associate members, and they should also have the benefit of the bonus that is declared from time to time and also have the option of the bonus amount being adjusted towards share capital."

* Sri P. RAMA RAO :—“ఉపాధ్యక్ష, ఈ రోజున సభ వారి ఎదుటనున్న 3-40 p.m.
 దిమాండును స్వతః రేకించుచూ కోత తీర్చానాన్ని బలపరచుచున్నాను. అయితే యీ
 కో ఆపరేటివ్ మూవెంట్లు (co-operative movement)లో యీనాటి పరిస్థితులబట్టి
 రైతులు చాలా యిబ్బందిపడుచున్నారని మనసుందరము తెలుసుకోవలసివస్తుంది. అవ
 సరమొస్తున్నది. మనకు యీ co-operative movement లో అనేక విధాలుగా
 అభివృద్ధి జరిగిందనిపిస్తే దాదాపు 65% గ్రామాలలో యీ co-operative societies
 పెట్టియున్నారనిపిస్తే అందువల్ల ప్రజలకు చాలా ఉపయోగముగా తున్నవినిపిస్తే ఇంకొకటి
 ఇప్పుడు సెలవిచ్చారు. నాకు కూడా యీ co-operative society విషయములో ఆరు
 సంవత్సరముల అనుభవమున్నదని తెలుసున్నాను. ఈ సొసైటీలో రైతులు అప్పులు
 తీసుకొనేటట్లుయితే వాము పడేటటువంటి ఇబ్బందులు అనేకములున్నవి. ఉదాహరణ
 ఒక విషయము తెలుసున్నాను. ఒక రైతు ఒక co-operative society లో చేరి
 అప్పు తీసుకొనినట్లుయితే అతడు ఏ సేటు ఆ అప్పును చెల్లించవలసియున్నది. అతనికి
 పండిన పంట వచ్చేసరికి సరియైన గిట్టుబాటుధర లేకపోయినట్లున్నది. అతను దాచివుంచు
 కొనేందుకు ప్రయత్నించుతాడు. సరియైన గిట్టుబాటు ధర వచ్చేవరకూ అగిడయెడల ఈ
 Co-operative Bank వారికి ఆ సంవత్సరము కట్టవలసివచ్చిన వాయిదా దగ్గరకు
 వచ్చినందున అతను దాచుకొనియున్న పంటను అమ్ముటకు యిష్టము లేనందున,
 బ్యాంకు ఒత్తిడికి ఆగలేక ఆ రైతు ఏ మార్కెటింగ్ సొసైటీలో ఎక్కువ వడ్డీలకు
 సొమ్ము తెచ్చి ఆ అప్పును తీర్చవలసియుంట్టున్నాడనున ఆ రైతు వచ్చే కష్టాలు
 చెప్పి నలవికాకుండా యున్నది. ఇంకొకటియున్నది. కొద్దికాలపు (short-term
 loans) అప్పులు ఈ రైతులకు ఏ మాత్రం లాభకరముగా లేదని మంచి చేస్తున్నాను. ఈ
 విషయము మనకందరకునూ తెలిసినటువంటి విషయమే. గ్రామాలలో మొదట అనేక
 మంది రైతులు సహకార పరిపతి సంఘములలో చేరుచున్న మాట నిజమే వారు
 మొట్టమొదట యీ సొసైటీలో చేరయెడల ఏదో లాభము వచ్చునని అందులో చేరి
 దరు. తర్వాత దానినుండి విరమించుకొనుట సంభవిస్తున్నది. అందువల్ల యీ
 short term loans వల్ల ప్రజలకు తుపయోగకరముగా లేవు. వీలను ఒట్టి అప్పులు
 తీర్చుటకు అనుగుణ్యముగా తుండవని, అంత ఉత్సాహముతో యీ సొసైటీను
 ప్రోత్సహించుట లేదు. ఈ బ్యాంకులలోనుండి short term loans తీసుకొని,
 తర్వాత వాయిదా ప్రకారము అప్పు తీర్చుటకు Bank వారు కొందర చేయడము
 వల్ల యీ అప్పుదారునికి వేరే విషయము జబ్బు రావందున మరల బ్యాంక్ ద్వారా
 అప్పుతెచ్చి తీర్చుదామని యితరుల దగ్గర అప్పు తెచ్చి అప్పుటికప్పుడు దానిని

[Sri P. Rama Rao]

[28th July 1952]

తీర్చుతాడు. కాని అప్పు వెంటనే రాదు. అందువలన ఆ రైతు అనేక కష్టాలకు గురి కావలసి యుండును. కనుక యీ బ్యాంకులో తీసుకొనే అప్పులు తీర్చుట కున్నా, యితరత్రా తెచ్చినటువంటి అప్పులకు వడ్డీలు పెరగడమున్నూ, యీ విధముగా వడ్డీలకు వడ్డీలు పెరగటమువల్ల యీ రైతు శపకంపై అప్పు అంతయు తీర్చలేక నానా యిబ్బందులు పడుటకు కారణమగుచున్నది. ఇదేవిధముగా ప్రతి రైతు, ప్రతి సంవత్సరము యీ అప్పులు తీర్చవలసినందువల్ల యీ short term loans వి విధము గాను రైతుకు ఉపయోగము లేకున్నవి. కాబట్టి యీ బ్యాంకులలోగాని, సొసైటీలలో గాని long term loans యిస్తేనే, ఎటువంటి రైతులకు కొంతభయోగమగుననినీ, వీలను బట్టి బయట హెచ్చు వడ్డీలకు అప్పుకు పోకుండా, యీ అప్పులు తీర్చుకొను టకు వీలుండునని మనవి చేస్తున్నాను. యిప్పుడు రైతులు తీసుకొన్నటువంటి short term loans అన్నియునూ, long term loans గా మార్చితేనే ఉపయోగముగా భ్రంశం దని చెబుతున్నాను. అట్లు చేయడమువల్ల యీ రైతులు వడ్డీ యిబ్బందులనుంచి తప్పించబడినవారగుదురు. ఇంతేకాకుండా సొసైటీలలో రైతుకు భూమి ఉంటేనే అప్పు యిచ్చుచున్నారు. భూమి లేనివాళ్లకు అప్పులు యివ్వడము లేదు. భూమి లేనివాళ్లు సాధారణముగా వ్యవసాయ కూలీలు, పేద రైతులుగా వున్నారు. వీరు, ఏ జమీందారునివిగాని, లేక భూస్వామివిగాని భూములను కాలకు తీసుకొని వ్యవసాయం చేస్తుంటారు. ఇట్టివారికి యీ నాడు అప్పులు యిచ్చుటలేదు. యీ సొసైటీలు భూమి యిచ్చు రైతుకే కొంతవరకు ఉపయోగపడుచున్నవి గాని, అన్ని రకములైన ప్రజలకు అనగా, భూమి వున్న సరి, లేకపోయిన సరి అప్పులు యిచ్చుటకు వీలుగా లేవు గనుక నారికి అట్టి సదుపాయములు కలుగ చేయవలెనని కోరుతున్నాను. అట్లు అప్పులు యివ్వకపోయినట్లయితే దేశములో వ్యవసాయాభివృద్ధి తగినంత కానేరదు. కొన్ని భూములు చేసే పేద రైతులు, వ్యవసాయ కూలీలు వారికి కావలసిన వ్యవసాయ పనిముట్లు కొనుక్కొనెటందుకగాని, లేక ఎరువులు తెచ్చుకొనెటందుకు గాని లేక మరే యితర ఆవసరమైన వస్తువులు వ్యవసాయాభివృద్ధికిగాను అప్పు తీసు కొనెటందుకు యీ సొసైటీలు ప్రయోగముగా లేకపోయినట్లయితే యీ సొసైటీలు ఉండి లాభమేమని అడుగుతున్నాను.

ఈరీతిగా రాష్ట్రములో యీ prohibition వల్ల అనేకమంది కల్లు గీతగాండ్రు నిరుద్యోగులైనాని అందరికీ తెలిసియుంటుంటే విషయమే. యీ కల్లు గీత గాండ్రు రాష్ట్రములో సుమారు రెండు వేల సొసైటీలు పెట్టిచూపుని మంత్రిగారు నెలవిచ్చారు. ఈ సొసైటీలలో చాలామంది యీ కల్లు గీతగాండ్రును చేర్చించి, బెల్లము తయారుచేయుటకు వీలు కలిగించామని అన్నారు. ఆ విధంగా వారికి వృత్తి co-operative సంస్థలద్వారా తోడ్పడుచున్నామని వారికి యెంతో లాభం చేసినట్లు చెప్పుకొన్నారు. యంతకంటే మోసమేమీ లేదు. యీ సొసైటీలు యే విధంగా పనిచేస్తున్నవని విచారించారా ! మా కృష్ణా జిల్లాలో యీ కల్లు గీతగాండ్రుకు ఆరు సొసైటీలు పెట్టినారు. యీ నాడు ఆ సొసైటీలు అన్నియు ఎత్తివేయబడియున్నవి. ఈ సొసైటీలు ఒకటిగాడా లాభానాటిగా లేనందున యీ వృత్తి, యే మాత్రము ఉపయోగకరంగా గాని, జీవనపోషికి ఉపయోగించేవిగా గాని లేనందున యీ సంస్థ పనిచేయలేదు. అందుచేత వాటిని రద్దు చేయటం జరిగింది. Co-operative department వారినుంచి గాని, యీ co-operative societies ద్వారాగాని బెల్లం తయారుచేయుటమాలము యేమీ లాభం లేదు. కనీస కూలీ కూడా గిట్టుబాటు లేక యీ బెల్లము తయారుచేయుటకు యేర్పడదసొసైటీలనుండి కల్లు గీతగాండ్రు విరమించు కొంటున్నారు. మొదట మొదట పుల్లసముగా చేరినారే గాని, వాళ్లకు లాభనాటిగా

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లెసంపన ముద్దివేయటం జరుగుతుంది. యీ సొసైటీలు ఎత్తివేయడమునకు కారణ మేమయిండునని ప్రభుత్వంవారిని విచారించమని అడుగుచున్నాను. ఇన్ని సంస్థలు పెట్టినామని లెక్కలు చెప్పటం గాదు. ఎన్నో వివిధంగా పనిచేయుచున్నవి, ఎన్ని రద్దయినవి, ఎందుచేత, వారికి మొత్తం గిట్టుతుంది అనేది అలోచించాలి. పని కల్పించినామని ప్రజలను మోసగించటం సరియైనది కాదు. కాబట్టి యీ co-operative societies లో long-term loans ఇవ్వగలండులకున్నూ, భూమి పున్ననూ, లెకపోయిననూ అప్పులు ఇవ్వగలండులకున్నూ యీ సొసైటీలలో చేరటమువంటి కలు గీడగాండ్రు, weavers వగైరాలు చేరనట్లయిన, వారికి యీ సొసైటీలవల్ల లాభకరముగా చేయమని ప్రభుత్వం వారిని కోరుచున్నాను.”

* SRI M. RAJESWARA RAO:—“ Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, this is one of the several departments created in order to make some provisions from time to time for some ‘interested persons’ in Government service. I observe to-day that communal feelings, communal favouritism, and political feelings are being propagated in the co-operative department. As a matter of fact, I have known that several representations have been made to the Government concerning the Deputy Registrar of West Godavari, who is carrying on communal propaganda and creating political feelings. Therefore, it appears to me that the department is intended to make provision for some ‘interested persons’ to serve vested interests.

“ Coming to the Demand, out of Rs. 80 lakhs provided for the Department, a sum of Rs. 70 lakhs goes towards establishment charges and only Rs. 10 lakhs will be spent on grants to certain kinds of co-operative societies, such as those for the khadi industry or the tanning industry. I submit, therefore, that either the activities of the department should be increased by allowing more funds for its increased activities or the whole Department should be abolished and the work entrusted to the Registration department. However, I personally feel that the movement might be encouraged in view of the recommendations of the National Planning Commission. I am sorry to observe that communal feeling is rampant in this Department and I will be only too glad if the communal feelings do not enter into the mind of the Hon. the Minister in charge of the department—himself. The condition of the tanners is very pitiable and I shall shortly refer to what is stated about them in the Report of the Harijan Welfare Committee. I submit that a major portion, or at least a considerable portion of the Harijan community, is employed in this industry and it is regrettable that the Hon. Minister does not seem to have referred to the Report at all in his speech. This is a Report which was debated upon and approved by the Legislature and it was published in 1948. This is what is stated on page 19 of that Report—

‘ In this connection, we have to bring to the notice of the Government the appalling condition of the chukker community. They are all Telugu-speaking people and though they are comparatively few in the Tamil country, they are spread over 8 per cent of the villages inhabited by the Harijans. They form a very small minority and their condition is most pitiable. In most cases, they possess no houses of their own nor any kind of property. They deserve the special attention of the Government and in any scheme of welfare work they should get precedence over every other sub-sect of the Harijan community.’

[Sri M. Rajeswara Rao]

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They went further and said—

‘We would even go one step further and say that they are the Harijans among the Harijans. Their counterpart (the Madigas or Arundhateya) in the Andhra area are not so badly off. Yet, they too are decidedly inferior in every respect and ought to be preferred in any kind of work for the amelioration of the Harijans. The reason why we had to mention them under this head is the age-long profession carried on by these people. They are the tanners and cobblers of the village and naturally their work is bound to be very dirty.’

This is the condition of the chucklers who are considered to be the Harijans amongst the Harijan community and yet the Hon. Minister has in his speech said that the tanning industry is the monopoly of this community as if it is an honourable and profitable profession. I suppose the tanners never complained against the other section of the Harijans to which the Hon'ble Minister himself belongs. Has the Hon. the Co-operation Minister received any complaint from the other section of the Harijans to which he belongs that they have been denied an opportunity to serve in the industry on account of the tanners? Or, has he received any representation from the tanners that the privileges accorded to them should not be extended to the other section of the Harijan community? *Certainly not. Therefore, it is not a correct statement and I request him to withdraw the statement he has made. The other day, we submitted a memorandum to the Hon. the Chief Minister, on behalf of the Tamil Nad Arundhatiyar Central Sangham and the Andhra Rastra Charamakara Sangham and wanted the help of the Government for the encouragement of the tanning industry on the lines evolved by the Harijan Welfare Committee on page 34 of their Report.

The Report says—

‘The Registrar of Co-operative Societies has a plan for the starting of some Leather Co-operative Societies.’

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So, it is admitted in the Report that a plan has been evolved to give encouragement to the tanning industry. But, the other day, the Hon. Minister, while answering my supplementary question said that there was no proposal to evolve a plan at all and that he referred the matter to the Registrar of Co-operative Societies for working out a plan. He also categorically stated that not a single pie was given to the tanning industry. I, therefore, feel that the attitude of the Hon. Minister towards Chucklers or Madigas is most regrettable and discouraging. I would ask in all earnestness why he has not given effect to this part of the recommendations of the Harijan Welfare Committee, which relates to the uplift of the tanners. I hope the Hon. the Minister for Co-operation will go through the Report, reconsider his decision and see that that plan is implemented without delay.”

DEPUTY SPEAKER:—“The hon. Member's time is up. The hon. Member Mr. Vemiah will now speak.”

* SRI S. VEMIAH:—“Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the Cut Motion. In doing so, I submit that the Co-operative Department is not working satisfactorily in the public interest. This Department is purely intended for the benefit of the poor people. Co-operative Societies have been formed to fight the evils

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of capitalism. The activities of the Co-operative Department have not been properly checked. Co-operation should be extended to all fields.

“ Now, I come to the Demand under discussion. A sum of about Rs. 77 lakhs is allotted for this Demand, namely, Co-operation. This amount is quite insufficient and inadequate for the working of co-operative societies throughout the State.

“ Now, I come to reclamation of fallow lands. Hundreds of thousands of acres of fallow lands are lying idle and the Government and private land-owners have not taken any steps to bring those lands under the plough. Those lands could be reclaimed and given to Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and other backward people who form the backbone of this country. I hope the Co-operative Department will bestow its attention on the starting of societies for the reclamation of fallow lands.

“ Now, I come to Land Colonization Scheme. In the Nellore district, the Government had taken up two or three Land Colonization, Schemes—one by name ‘ Karedugunta ’ in the Atmakur taluk and two others, namely, ‘ Tarunanayi ’ and ‘ Siddhapuram ’ in Kovur taluk. After spending a large amount on two schemes, namely, Karedugunta and Tarunanayi the Government finally abandoned them. I do not know the reasons for the Government taking such a decision, when hundreds of thousands of acres are lying idle and poor landless labourers are ready to form a colony. Most of these people belong to the Schedule Castes and Backward Communities.

“ Also, there are thousands of acres of land at the disposal of Religious Endowments. The Endowments authorities auction these lands for cultivation purposes. The poor people are not able to bid and compete with the rich people at those auctions. Therefore, the Co-operative Department should insist on the Endowments authorities to lease out those lands to the co-operative societies that may be formed for helping the poor people.

“ Sir, the Government have given some loans for house construction. At page 51 of the Report on the Working of the Co-operative Societies, it is mentioned that a sum of Rs. 20,000 was given to the societies. In Muthialapalayam in the Nellore district, there was a scheme for house construction. The people of that locality want to construct houses and it has been the burning problem for the last ten years. They are not able to get lands under the Land Acquisition Act. Finally, the Government issued notice under section 4 (1) of the above Act and after acquisition, the proposals were shelved. I want to know what has happened to the Rs. 20,000 allotted to the Co-operative Societies? Why not this amount be utilized for the poor people? The Government are unnecessarily spending thousands of rupees on Khadi and Firka Development Schemes which are not useful to the people. Before I conclude, I want to draw the attention of the Government that the amount set apart for this Demand is meagre and I hope they will come again for supplementary grants for this Department.”

[K. S. Subramaniam Gounder]

SRI P. BAPU NAIDU :—“ ఉపాధ్యక్ష, కో-ఆపరేటివ్ క్రెడిట్ సొసైటీలు వ్యవసాయదారులకు ఉపయోగముగా నుండుటకు పెట్టబడినవి. అందుచేత క్రెడిట్ సొసైటీలు వీరికి ఆప్పు ఎంత ఇవ్వాలి అన్నది, నిర్ణయించేటప్పుడు ఆ గ్రామాల్లో భూమి తొలుకు పరిమితిని మనస్సులో ఉంచుకోవాలి. (At this stage Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair.) సెంట్రల్ బ్యాంకు ఆ క్రెడిట్ సొసైటీలు ఇచ్చే maximum borrowing power ను నిర్ణయించాలి ఆ గ్రామాల్లో వందే పంటలు, వాటికి అయ్యే మడుపులు మనస్సులో భ్రమకొని borrowing limit ను నిర్ణయించవలెను. క్రెడిట్ సొసైటీలు తమ బాటేదార్లనుండి ఆప్పును వసూలు చేసుకొనుటకు ఆ గ్రామాల్లో వందే పంట వాని తొలుకు మార్కెటింగు మొదలైనవి మనస్సులో ఉంచుకొని దీనిపైన ఆ ఆప్పును నిర్ణయించే విధానాన్ని నిర్ణయించుకోవాలి

[Sri P. Babu Naidu]

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దీనిని బట్టి క్రెడిట్ సొసైటీకి తగిన సెక్యూరిటీ వ్యాంకు అప్పు లీవ్వుకొనేదాన్ని నిర్ణయించవలెను. కో-ఆపరేటివ్ సొసైటీకి చాక్ డార్లు కమిటీ వామి ఇస్తే దానిపైన వాళ్ళకు అప్పు ఇచ్చే ఆంకాశము ఉండాలి. చాలా చోట్ల సొసైటీ తాలూకు డబ్బును ఏ కొద్ది మందో ఉపయోగపరచుకొనుచున్నాడు. కాని borrowing power కు ఋణాలు తీసుకొంటున్నారు. క్రెడిట్ సొసైటీ ఇటుంటి ఉద్దేశం discourage చేసి గ్రామంలో ఎక్కువ మందికి స్వల్పమైన ఋణాలు ఇచ్చేటట్లు చేయవలెను. కనుక క్రెడిట్ సొసైటీలలో రెండు, మూడు గతకంటే ఎక్కువ సంఖ్యల గ్రామాలను చేర్చి, వాటికి తగినంత అప్పు సౌకర్యాలను కలిగించవలెను. ఎక్కువ సౌకర్యాలైనను కలిగించాలి, లేదా ఆ గ్రామాలను విడదీసి వాటికి ప్రత్యేక సొసైటీలైనవి ఏర్పాటుచేయవలెను.

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“బర్గా కాందిశీ లకు కొంత జీవనభృతినీ కలిగించే నిమిత్తం కొద్ది ప్రాంతాలలో వీవర్స్ సొసైటీలలో వారిని సభ్యులుగా చేర్చి వారికి కొన్ని సౌకర్యాలు చేపూర్చవలెను. కాని, ప్రస్తుతము వారికి అట్టి సౌకర్యములు లభించకుండా చేయబడుతున్నది. ఈ విషయాలలో బర్గా కాందిశీకులు అధికారులగు, ప్రభుత్వమునకు ఎంత ఘోరమైతేకొన్నా వాటికి తగిన సహాయము ఇవ్వబడడం లేదు. ఇట్లు వాటిని లేని ఈ కాందిశీకులు పన్నుల లేక మలనుల మాడుచున్నారు. కనుక వారికి తగిన సౌకర్యాలను ఏర్పాటుచేయవలెను.

“విరువాత రూరల్ కో-ఆపరేటివ్ హౌస్ బిల్డింగు సొసైటీల విషయంలో 10, 12 గ్రామాలు కలిపి ఒక సొసైటీగా ఏర్పాటు చేయవలెను. ఈ విషయంలో గవర్నమెంటు కో-ఆపరేటివ్ డిపార్టుమెంటు సెక్రటరీ వ్యాంకుల తగు శ్రద్ధ తీసుకొని ఇట్టి సొసైటీలు ఏర్పాటు అయ్యేటట్లు చూడవలెను. ఈ రీతిగా ఇట్లు కట్టుకొన్న పేద ప్రజలకు ప్రభుత్వము సొసైటీ రెండు మండేకా వైన కొంత ఉచిత గ్రామును ఇవ్వవలెను ఈ సూచనలను ప్రభుత్వము తగు శ్రద్ధతో పరిశీలించవలెనని మనవి చేస్తూ ఇంతటితో విరమించుకొంటున్నాను.”

* THE HON. SRI D. SANJIVAYYA :—“ Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am really thankful to all those Members who took part in this debate relating to Demand XX—Co-operation. As many as eleven members have taken part in this debate, and I am really happy to say that much of the criticism levelled is by way of constructive criticism to improve the working of this Department in this State of Madras. Dr. K. B. Menon, the Leader of the Socialist Party, has been emphasising the fact that the producer-cum-consumer societies have become more or less monopolies of a particular political body in Malabar district. I think he had in his mind the Congress Party.”

DR. K. B. MENON :—“ No, I had in my mind industrialists and feudalists.”

* THE HON. SRI D. SANJIVAYYA :—“ I am sorry. The hon. Member says that he did not have that in his mind, and I am really thankful to him for the correction he made. I am told that he meant industrialists and feudalists. Anyway, I am one of those who feel that these societies should never become monopolies of any class or any community or any other body. He has also been emphasising one fact, and that is, that corruption is rife and

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rampant and embezzlement is going on on a large scale in these societies. Here, I must bring to the notice of hon. Members that these societies are autonomous bodies. So, any misappropriation of fund or any other offence committed should first be looked into by the society itself, that is, by the Board of Directors or the Management Committee, who should take suitable action in the matter. If necessary, Government also, possibly would go to the rescue of the Board of Directors to take suitable action.

“ There is one other point which the hon. Member raised. That was that one and the same person had been holding several offices. Probably that is not desirable. But we have to examine the legal position. That is, can we prevent a person from becoming a director in more than one institution? I do not know whether there is any legal bar to that. Still I shall see that the position is examined, and if possible, we will prevent such a thing.

“ One other point which was raised by the hon. Member, Dr. K. B. Menon, was that membership was refused by certain societies to particular persons. The power to admit members is entirely vested in the Board of Directors and the General Body. There is one other thing, and that is a constitutional position. He asked, ‘ Can a person be prevented from becoming a member of any institution? ’ On this point, I am sorry to tell the House, that I am not sure of the constitutional and legal position. Anyway, all these things will be taken into consideration, proper examination will be made and, of course, suitable action will follow. Sir, the hon. Member, Dr. K. B. Menon, was also telling the House that non-officials who had been in charge of these societies were not really honest; most of the secretaries and presidents, after having misappropriated huge sums of money, had been absconding. On the other hand, there is my friend over here, now not present, who has said, that the non-officials are the most fittest (if I may use the Shakesperian double superlative term) persons to run these societies and officials should have no desire of interfering with these societies. He complains that the Registrar of Co-operative Societies has been forcing a Deputy Registrar here and a Sub-Registrar or a Senior Inspector there and all that, thus putting these societies to great expenses and loss. I have to deny the charge made by the hon. Member. I do not know why he persists in his remark. It was only the other day, in reply to an interpellation by him, I informed him that officials were not being dumped on these societies. I cannot understand why he is still repeating it. On the other hand, there have been repeated requests by the societies for the loan of the services of these officers, so much so, the department is working now with a shortage of experienced men.

“ Then, Sir, with regard to the collection of audit fees and supervision fees, he said, that the Government had no right to collect them and that there was no legal sanction behind it. Sir, it is a fact that Government are collecting such fees; we will examine the legal position and we shall soon take a decision.

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"The hon. Gentleman, Mr. Pragada Kotaiah, who is the champion of the cause of handloom weavers, has been telling the House that the unlimited character of these credit societies should be changed into limited one, that is, the liability of these societies should be limited to the share capital contributed by the members. Probably that was in his mind when he made his speech. Government will examine the question. He also said that the number of primary land mortgage banks that were functioning in this State was only 129 and that it was not enough. I agree. But, at the same time, I have to inform him and also the House that there are certain pre-requisites to be fulfilled to start land mortgage banks. They are: (1) there must be a good number of indebted ryots in the area; (2) the land must be a suitable land for mortgage purposes, and (3) it is a most important factor, there must be proper human material available. By it, I mean, that there must be enthusiastic and eager young people who can work these institutions, with a good amount of zeal and interest.

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"The hon. Gentleman, Sri Kotaiah, also complained that there was inordinate delay in giving loans to the borrowers. I will certainly find out the lacuna in this system of work and see that it is rectified. Coming to his own subject of handlooms, he said that the handloom weavers were put to great difficulty on account of the fact that the primary weavers' co-operative societies were refused loans, or, rather when they approached the Central Banks, they were not given loans. I said a few days ago that, according to the new scheme introduced by the Government, the Government guarantee the loan that is to be advanced by the Central Banks and I see no reason why these Central Banks still refuse the loans. He has also suggested (The hon. Member, Sri Pragada Kotaiah, was seen rising.) I am not yielding unless the hon. Member rises on a point of order. He has also suggested that a Finance Corporation should be set up for cottage industries and that a Sub-Registrar should be put in charge of this branch, and that work in regard to this branch should be improved. I thank the hon. Member for this very valuable suggestion. We will certainly look into it and see whether any useful things could be done.

"With regard to the producer-cum-consumer stores in Malabar, the hon. Member, Sri V. Sankaranarayana Menon, said that these institutions had been built up with great care and at a heavy cost and that, therefore, these institutions should not be allowed to die away. I assure him, Sir, that the Government will certainly see to it that these institutions are not allowed to fade away. The Government will certainly reorganize them and, if possible, convert them into multi-purpose societies so that they may be useful to the members who have been responsible for organizing such societies. Sir, I have nothing more to say and I think I have covered many points—probably not all—but I can say that I will consider all the suggestions that have been made and proper action will be taken on them. Thank you, Sir."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member Sri S. C. C. Anthony Pillai is not here and, unless some other hon. Member presses the cut motion, I take it that the cut motion has been withdrawn."

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SRI S. T. ADITYAN :—“ Sir, I press the cut motion.”

MR. SPEAKER :—“ I am now going to put the cut motion standing in the name of the hon. Member, Sri S. C. C. Anthony Pillai, to vote. The question is—

‘ That the allotment of Rs. 77,81,200 for Co-operation be reduced by Rs. 100. ’ ”

The cut motion was lost.

MR. SPEAKER :—“ I shall now put the Demand to the vote of the House. The question is—

‘ That the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 77,81,200 under Demand XX—Co-operation. ’ ”

The Demand was carried and the Grant was made.

(3) DEMAND XVIII—AGRICULTURE.

* THE HON. DR. R. NAGAN GOUDA :—“ Mr. Speaker, Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I move—

‘ That the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 3,88,74,300 under Demand XVIII—Agriculture. ’

“ Before explaining the scope of the Grant and the policy, I may say a few words about the adequacy of the Grant. The Budget Estimate of Rs. 389 lakhs is about Rs. 100 lakhs more than the Budget Estimate for 1951-52. The expenditure under this Grant has been increasing from Rs. 105.7 lakhs in 1946-47 to Rs. 289 lakhs in 1951-52, that is, in the course of five years, and this year it has come to Rs. 389 lakhs. Some may consider that this Grant is too much. To them I would point out that a sum of Rs. 389 lakhs for our State, in which the net area of crops sown is about 350 lakhs of acres, cannot be considered too much. The per acre expenditure works out to about only a rupee. If we take the population into consideration, the per capita expenditure will be far less, and probably it will be only half a rupee. The increase in expenditure during the past few years under this head is partly due to the expenditure on Grow More Food Schemes and largely due to the purchase of agricultural machinery, the capital expenditure on which is for some reason or other shown under the Revenue Account. If we exclude this capital expenditure, the expenditure for normal administration will be far less. Honourable Members will agree that this expenditure is by no means extravagant, considering the facts that agriculture is the basic industry which provides food for the community and raw products for industry and that the Agricultural department is one of the most important branches of administration. I know that there are some others who consider that the expenditure on agriculture is inadequate, compared to the expenditure of certain other departments. The expenditure of about 389 lakhs out of a total expenditure of the State under Revenue Account of Rs. 6,690 lakhs works out to less than 6 per cent. To such critics, I should perhaps explain that the Demand

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under Agriculture does not include expenditure on State Trading Schemes which come under Demand XLI which includes schemes for the purchase and distribution of manures, iron and steel, and pipes and fittings. Further, considerable amounts for schemes intended for agricultural improvement are provided under other heads in the Budget, like tank improvement schemes and small irrigation schemes having Grow More Food value. The total provision made in the Budget under several Demands including Agriculture but excluding Major Irrigation Schemes, which will help agriculture in one way or other, works out to about Rs. 600 lakhs. It is true that we have had this year to cut out drastically less essential schemes in view of the stringent financial position of the State; but I can assure the House that the Government are not unaware of the needs of agriculture and an adequate provision has been made in the Budget.

“The Demand for Rs. 389 lakhs comprises the estimated expenditure on direction, superintendence, experimental farms, demonstration and propaganda, agricultural education, agricultural engineering, agricultural research, marketing and a few other minor items. We have provided Rs. 11.48 lakhs under direction and superintendence, about 31.5 lakhs for agricultural research and experiments, about Rs. 13 lakhs for agricultural education, Rs. 162 lakhs for charges under demonstration and propaganda, Rs. 167 lakhs for agricultural engineering and about Rs. 1 lakh each for marketing and minor building works. It will be noticed that the provision for demonstration and propaganda includes provision for multiplication and distribution of seeds, measures for control of pests and diseases of crops, and expenditure on public exhibitions and fairs. The expenditure on agricultural education relates to expenditure on the two Agricultural Colleges in the State, the Central Farms at Coimbatore and Bapatla attached to the Colleges.

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“The provision for agricultural engineering includes costs of tractors, pumpsets, pipes, oil engines, etc., the cost of contour bunding operations and the cost on the operating staff. The provision for experiments and research provides for expenditure on the Research Institute at Coimbatore, the various Research Stations in the State, and for many research schemes conducted entirely from State Funds and for the State's share of the expenditure on the schemes partly financed by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research and other Commodity Committees. I should perhaps here point out that the receipts under the Revenue Head ‘XXIX—Agriculture’ has been correspondingly increasing during the recent years. This year's Budget Estimate is Rs. 131.69 lakhs. The recoveries under Agricultural Engineering amount to Rs. 23 lakhs and those from the Seed Distribution Schemes and certain other schemes amount to Rs. 80 lakhs. The receipts from agricultural stations by sale of produce and from the sale of green manure seeds, etc., are about Rs. 20 lakhs. The credit taken for transfers from the deposit accounts of grants made by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research and other Commodity Committees comes to about Rs. 6 lakhs.

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“ The activities of the Agricultural department have expanded and are bound to expand in all directions and the expenditure is bound to grow. There is an enormous demand not only for the services of the department but also for supplies like tractors, oil engines, manure, seeds, etc., and the department is not able to satisfy the demands fully. There is a clamour for supply of more oil engines under the hire-purchase system and for the hiring of more tractors, and complaints are frequently heard that requests for the supply of machinery are not promptly complied with. The department has to comply with the requisitions in some order of priority and there is necessarily some time lag between application and compliance. The Government, of course, cannot find the entire capital for all machinery required. Wherever possible, private capital must be utilized in order that the machinery at the disposal of Government may be given for the use of such of the agriculturists as cannot find their own capital.

“ From the notice of cut motions given by the hon. Members, I am glad to find that they are taking keen interest in the several aspects of the work of this department. But there are certain matters like land tenures which, though they have intimate connexion with Agriculture, are not entirely within the cognizance of the department. In other respects, nothing will be more welcome than constructive suggestions and criticisms from all the hon. Members. From what I am able to gather from the general debate on the Budget and the cut motions given notice of, the main criticisms are that the provision of facilities for agriculturists, like loans, seeds, tractors, etc., is inadequate and that the measures for the production of more food are ineffective. I would first like to draw attention to the fact that five years of continuous drought considerably limited the results of the food production campaign and the results are, therefore, not as spectacular as they might be. The Grow More Food Enquiry Committee set up by the Central Government have gone into the relative merits of the various schemes and their report is awaited. The policy of the Government of India in respect of Grow More Food subsidies has undergone considerable change and they have so far sanctioned Rs. 47 lakhs out of Rs. 138 lakhs applied for, for 1952-53. Luckily, the seasonal prospects are a little brighter this year and with the policy of decontrol of foodgrains which we have given effect to, I am sure that the measures taken by Government for increasing food production will be more fruitful and the agriculturists will do all in their power to increase the production of foodgrains without the fear of Government procurement or price control. Before I dwell at greater length on our intensive cultivation schemes, let me refer to the general criticisms against the Agricultural Department. I may state that our organization in the State compares favourably with many other major States in India and its efficiency is no less. Recently considerable attention has been paid to extension service in Agriculture. We have recently appointed a Joint Director of Agriculture to concentrate on the work of the organization of extension services. We are also taking measures to organize village agricultural associations in order that they may assist the agricultural officers in bringing to light the local needs

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so that extension work, particularly before the cultivation season, may be more purposeful and effective. It is true that the staff at our disposal is limited but no useful purpose will be gained by merely increasing the staff without regard to quality or without adequate finance for expanding the services that they have to provide. Our agriculturists are shrewd and intelligent people; but they are crippled by poverty and there is, therefore, a limit for the development of agriculture and for the adoption of agricultural improvements that can be recommended. The problem that the Agricultural Department has to face is, therefore, more basic and fundamental than is commonly supposed. Nevertheless, we have tried to make the work of the department as efficient and useful as possible. You might remember that in the previous years, one strong criticism was that the agricultural demonstrators were being mainly used for trading work instead of for demonstration and propaganda. Hon. Members are aware that the trading work relating to manures and iron and steel has been removed from the agriculture staff and handed over to co-operative and other agencies. I am glad to say that this has toned up considerably the work and usefulness of the department. The Government have been for some time considering that our Agriculture Graduates should be given more intensive practical training than is obtaining at present. We have been under correspondence with the Universities in order to extend the degree course to give practical training to the students for one full crop season which may be about six months or a little bit more. The All-India Council of Agricultural Education recently constituted has also taken this view and I am hoping that this proposal will materialize very soon. Agricultural Research is more or less like the power house and the Agriculture Department and the field staff are only the transmission lines. That our research work is on the right lines was the opinion expressed by the Expert Committee which reviewed the progress of the agricultural research in the State in 1949. Visitors from foreign countries also at different times have made such comments. The programme of research and progress made is reviewed every half-year by the Research Council at Coimbatore and an annual report is also submitted to Government. I hope to visit the Research Institute for a few days next month when I intend to review the work done in each section by personal discussion with the Specialists concerned. This is not the place to recount the work done in each research section, information about which can be obtained from the Administration Report and other publications, but I may assure the House that every care is being taken that fruitful lines of work are pursued and ineffective work is eliminated. Owing to financial stringency, we could not include in the Budget this year many new schemes, although for some of them, the Indian Council of Agricultural Research and other Commodity Committees have approved grants. The most important new schemes proposed to be included are the schemes for the breeding of blast resistant strain of paddy, the continuation of the sugarcane research at Anakapalle and Gudiyatham, the scheme for eradication of weeds and a few others. There are about 40 agricultural research stations in this State and last year, a research

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station at Satyamangalam in the Lower Bhavani Project area was sanctioned. An Agricultural Farm at Paramakudi at Ramanathapuram district and Cashewnut Research Station at Mangalore were also sanctioned. These stations will come into full working order this year.

“ The future of Agricultural Research in the State will depend upon the quality of training in our Agricultural Colleges, and the number of admissions into each of the Agricultural Colleges at Coimbatore and Bapatla has been increased from 80 to 90 this year in view of the possible demand for Agricultural Graduates in connection with Community and other Projects. The rules for admission into the Agricultural Colleges are more or less the same as for other professional colleges. The sons of agriculturists and those having practical experience of agriculture are given preference, other things being equal. As I said before, a proposal to give an intensive practical bias to the course is under active consideration. This orientation will give a thorough grounding to the students in practical agriculture and make them understand the problems of the agriculturists. The Ford Foundation of America has volunteered to give financial aid to open Extension Departments in five selected Agricultural Colleges in India and to start village development work in a compact block of 50 villages round about the colleges. The Agricultural College, Coimbatore, has been selected as one of the colleges and if the scheme materializes, an extension course will be opened as a Post-graduate course without in any way interfering with the three-year academical course. Hon. Members must be aware that the F.A.O. and the Government of India have sponsored an International Soil Fertility Course which was recently opened at Coimbatore. We are making available our teaching staff, laboratory, farms, etc., for this course. I am sure that the mutual contact of many scientists from the South and South-East Asia and other parts of the world will have a beneficial effect on the teaching staff of the College.

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“ The Agricultural Engineering Branch is becoming increasingly popular. We have at present 293 tractors, of which 154 are provided with bulldozer equipments. We could not increase the number of tractors this year on the same scale as we originally contemplated under the Five-year Plan due to financial stringency. This year only a few new tractors will be purchased, but action is being taken to see that the tractors now in possession are not kept idle for one reason or another but are put to maximum working use. This kind of power-farming is new to this State and we have an experience of only about five years. The greatest handicap in this respect is the lack of trained personnel and inadequate supervisory staff. We are sending batches of men both gazetted and non-gazetted to the Central Tractor Organization, Delhi, for training every year. Apart from the efficiency of the supervisory staff, the outturn of the machines will depend to a large extent on the quality of the operating staff. I am not quite sure if the scales of pay that are paid by Government to the trained personnel are low; but the system of payment seems to require re-examination. Besides the basic monthly pay, the total earning should depend

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upon the actual work turned out in order to provide an incentive for greater outturn. I propose to get this question examined thoroughly and to see that only first-rate men who can do genuine work are retained. People, who hire tractors should also co-operate with the Government in this matter and see that the tractors are not unnecessarily detained and the programme of work upset. There is a very great demand for oil-engines on the hire-purchase system. At present we are having 844 oil-engines for hiring out to ryots; by the end of 1952-53 we propose to supply 3,000 oil-engines and 749 electric motors under the hire-purchase system. Such of those who can afford to buy their own engines will be well-advised to do so so that the Government scheme may help those who cannot afford to invest capital. The contour bunding scheme is becoming popular. Besides the work that is already started in Bellary district, work has recently started in Chittoor district as a famine measure. The question of reclamation of lands in the Tungabhadra Project area before water is allowed for irrigation is under investigation. A survey of waste lands in Ramanathapuram, Nellore and some other districts is being undertaken in order to help reclamation.

“Another innovation which is becoming very popular is the river pumping scheme. The Government have already sanctioned two river pumping units for each of the districts of Chingleput, Chittoor, Malabar and South Kanara and one in Ramanathapuram district. Proposals are under consideration for starting a few more in other places. The Government of India have refused to give their share of subsidy towards the working of this scheme and has suggested that it may be worked out on a ‘no profit, no loss’ basis. It is proposed, therefore, to work the schemes hereafter through co-operative societies, wherever possible. In regard to the schemes already in operation where co-operative societies do not come forward to take up the work, the Government will continue the schemes on the present lines and the beneficiaries will be asked to pay at full rates. There is also vast scope for small scale mechanization on the farms and it is hoped that the Research Engineering Section will pay constant attention to this.

“Next to irrigation, the most important requisite for Agriculture is manure. The targets for the distribution of ammonium sulphate and super phosphate during 1951-52 are 116,000 tons and 28,000 tons respectively. Against these targets, the quantities distributed till the end of May 1952 are 64,183 tons of ammonium sulphate and 12,932 tons of super phosphate. The intensive manuring scheme introduced in the deltaic area during the previous year is being continued. The Government of India have sanctioned a loan of Rs. 1 crore for 1952-53 as was done in 1951-52 to enable this Government to finance the intensive manuring scheme. Apart from straight fertilizers, facilities are given to manure mixing firms to manufacture mixtures for ryots crops and commercial crops. The quality and price of the mixtures are controlled and supervised by the department. Hon. Members are aware that groundnut cake is completely decontrolled and that agriculturists can buy freely in the market.

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“ Urban and rural compost making has made very good strides. Under the urban compost scheme, local bodies have manufactured and distributed 1·2 lakhs tons of compost till the end of May 1952 against a target of 2·32 lakh tons. Under rural compost scheme, as against the target of 1·04 lakh tons for 1951-52, 2·09 lakh tons has been manufactured up to the end of May 1952.

“ We have been placing great importance on green manure. Up to the end of May 1952, the Department has distributed 5,043 tons of green manure seeds as against a target of 3,214 tons.

“ The multiplication and distribution of improved paddy seeds is an important item of work of the Department. The quantity of improved paddy seeds distributed so far is 13,040 tons against a target of 14,572 tons; under millets, 553 tons has been distributed so far against a target of 2,030 tons. A provision of Rs. 73·49 lakhs is made in the Budget for the cost of seeds and overhead charges excluding the cost of the staff. The receipts by the sale of seeds are not shown in the Budget under the same sub-head and this is likely to give a wrong impression that the expenditure on the scheme is so much. The receipts by way of recovery by sale proceeds of the seeds is shown under the Revenue Head ‘ XXIX—Agriculture ’ and even there, it is not shown separately but included under ‘ Miscellaneous ’. I must explain here that seeds have to be purchased at a premium because the fields have to be rogued of off-types and the seeds have to be completely dried for seed purposes. The cost of improved seed is, therefore, naturally higher than that of the bazaar seeds. At the time of sale, difficulty is met with in disposal, particularly if the monsoon promises to be a failure, because no ryot would care to sow the higher-priced improved seeds when there is the risk that the crop may fail. But even so, there is a very large percentage of discerning ryots who always go in for these improved seeds. I am not unaware that complaints are frequently heard that the seeds sold by the Department do not have in some cases cent per cent germination. The defect may be due to many causes besides the failure of the staff to test the viability before the issue of the seeds—for example unsuitability of soil, lack of timely irrigation and so on. Wherever such complaints are received, they are fully investigated and suitable action is taken. We are trying an experiment to distribute improved seeds through village co-operative societies and also through selected seed farm ryots in interior villages by payment of a commission. I shall take all possible measures to improve matters in the distribution of improved seeds as the failure of seeds is man-made and is worse than the failure of rains. I may tell the House that the Department has been of considerable use in supplying seeds wherever there has been shortage of seeds or where seeds for short-term crops are required on account of the delay in the onset of rains. Sometimes seeds from Tanjore are found suitable in Chingleput. I may also state that in almost all cases, persons who have been winning prizes in the crop competition have used the improved seeds recommended or distributed by the Department.

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“The work that is being done by the Plant Protection staff is very much appreciated by the ryots. They have been able to bring under control large scale incidence of pests and diseases. Tests with insecticides have been carried out and confirmatory results have been obtained regarding comparative merits, concentration dosage, residual effects, etc., of different brands.

“The Cotton Extension Scheme is being continued. The area and production for 1951-52 target were 301,300 acres and 153,921 bales respectively. The estimates of area and production attained up to the end of May 1952 are 215,476 acres and 47,815 bales respectively. The programme for the current year aims at an additional area of 301,300 acres and a production of 155,429 bales in excess of the basic year 1949-50. In this connection, I may draw attention to the fact that cotton can be grown on rice fallows in the Tanjore district in the off season without detriment to the rice crop. There has also been a large increase in the production of Bimilipatam jute in the Visakhapatnam district. The growers of commercial crops have been affected by the recent fall in prices. The fall in gur price has also affected sugarcane growers in the non-factory areas. In factory areas, the Government have maintained a very fair price in spite of the slump in sugar.

“The regulation of markets for commercial crops is governed by the Madras Commercial Crops Markets Act. Recently, new Market Committees were constituted or proposed to be constituted in Ramanathapuram for cotton and groundnut, in Tirunelveli for cotton, in Guntur for groundnut and tobacco. There is a good deal of misapprehension about the scope of the Madras Commercial Crops Markets Act and there is initial opposition from the traders whenever the Act is newly extended. The Act provides the mechanism for the growers and buyers to come together and for correct weighments and for payment on the spot. These markets are managed by locally elected committees and the Government do not interfere in their working once the Act is extended. The cesses collected by the Committees are spent by them and do not go into Government revenues.

“I should not let this occasion pass without referring to one important aspect of agriculture which is very often overlooked, viz., facilities for agricultural credit to finance agricultural operations. The credit available to agriculture by way of takkavi loans, Government subsidies, and credits issued by the co-operative organizations does not exceed Rs. 12 crores while the cost of production of crops in this State is roughly estimated at about Rs. 600 crores. This cost is only cost of production and does not include capital investment on livestock and dead stock like ploughs, implements, etc. It will thus be realized how much agriculturists are thrown on their own resources to improve agriculture which is the corner-stone of our economy. The Report of the Special Committee of the Reserve Bank must be awaited to see what measures will be taken to tackle this problem.

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"It is impossible in a brief Budget speech to explain the policy and programme of the many phases of agricultural work but I hope I have given sufficient information about our policies and programmes. I can assure hon. Members that the Government will do their best to improve the prosperity of the agriculturists. Our major stroke of policy, which is a direct evidence of this, is the decontrol of foodgrains which will remove the restrictions hitherto placed on the agriculturists and contribute to an increase of food production. Fortunately, agriculture is a question in which all of us are interested and I am sure that I shall have the support of all sections of the House. I shall value the constructive suggestions that the hon. Members will no doubt offer during the course of the debate on this Budget Demand and shall profit by them. With these words, I commend my Motion to the acceptance of the House."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I must tell the House that all those Demands which are not put to vote before 6 o'clock to-day will be guillotined at 6 o'clock. Motion moved—

'That the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 3,88,74,300 under Demand XVIII—Agriculture.' "

* SRI VAVILALA GOPALAKRISHNAIAH:—"ఆగ్రహారము, ఈ రైతుల ప్రతిపాదనను నేను 100 రూపాయలకు కోస తీర్మానమును ప్రతిపాదిస్తున్నాను. వ్యవసాయశాఖా మంత్రులు నా కోస తీర్మానాన్ని ఉపసంహరించుకొనవలసినదని కోర రని, దానిని ఆగిరిస్తారని ఆశిస్తున్నాను. మన దేశం ముఖ్యంగా వ్యవసాయ దేశం. ఈ దేశం సర్వోత్తముఖంగా ఆభివృద్ధి కావాలంటే వ్యవసాయదారుని స్థితి బాగు పడాలి. ప్రభుత్వంవారు, వారి తోచేదాన్ని వ్యవసాయాభివృద్ధికి, అధిక అహారో త్పత్తి రంగాలలో ఎక్కువ శ్రద్ధచూపాలి. ఈ వ్యవసాయశాఖ నిమిత్తమై రూ. 3,80,00,000 ల వరకు ఖర్చు చేయదలచారు. దీనిలో రెండు కోట్ల రూపాయలకు పైగా సిబ్బందియొక్క జీత భత్యాలకే ఖర్చవుతుంది. మిగిలిన కొద్దిపాటి మొత్తమే వ్యవసాయ దారులకు సహాయమయ్యేందుతుంది.

"వ్యవసాయాన్ని ఆధునిక పద్ధతుల ననుసరించి కొనసాగించినట్లైతే హెచ్చు పంటలు వస్తాయి కాని ఇత్యైకుల నాటి నాగలిలోనే ఆభివృద్ధి సాదించలేము. ఈ విషయం వ్యవసాయశాఖ ఉద్యోగులకు తెలియను. ఆయనప్పటికీ రైతులలో ఆధునిక పరికరములయొక్క ఉపయోగముల గురించి వారు హెచ్చుగా ప్రచారం చేయరు. రైతులకు ఈ కొత్త పనియట్లు సరైనట్లే చేయరు. వ్యవసాయ డిమాండ్స్ పైట్లు బాగుగా తదుభయగోస్తవారు. అందులో ఎంతమాత్రం సందేహంలేదు. కాని వారు సంపాదించుకొనిన విజ్ఞానమంతా పుస్తకములను చదివి ఆర్జించుకొన్నదే. ఈ విజ్ఞానాన్ని ఆచరణలోనికి తీసుకొనిరావడం వారికి తెలియదు. ఏ మట్టికి ఏ పంట పైరు చేయవచ్చుకో సరిగా చెప్పరు. పుస్తకాలలోని విషయములను అప్పజెప్పడం వరకు మాత్రమే వారికి చేసనవును. ఈ విషయంలో వ్యవసాయశాఖాద్యోగులు తగు శ్రద్ధతీసుకొని రైతుకు సచ్చ చెప్పి అధిక అహారోత్పత్తి చేయించవలసివుంది.

"రసాయనక ఎరువులను ఉపయోగించే విషయంలో కూడా వ్యవసాయ శాఖాద్యోగులు రైతులకు సరి అయిన సలహాలు ఇవ్వడంలేదు. వర్షాలు లేక నేల వేగిపోయి ఉన్న కాలంలో వారు రైతులకు రసాయనీకృత ఎరువులను భూములకు వేయమంటు

[Sri Vavilala Gopalakrishnaiah] [28th July 1952]

న్నారు. ఈ విధంగా చేసినట్లైతే ఖామి సారంగాలుండుని రైతులు వాటిని వాడుకుంటారు. స్థానికంగా లభ్యమయ్యే వేడ, చెత్త, అకు మొదలైన ఎరువులను ధనం రూపంగా ఇవ్వమంటే వ్యవసాయశాఖాద్యోగులు రసాయనకవులకు తెలుసుకోవడానికి, కేంద్రప్రభుత్వం రసాయనకవులకు తెలుసుకోవడానికి చెబుతున్నారు. ఎక్కడో పాపాలయూ పర్యటాలలో ఉన్న కేంద్ర ప్రభుత్వాన్ని స్థానిక ఎరువులను సరై, చేయించమని అభ్యర్థించినా లాభంలేకుండా ఉంది. అధికారోన్నతి ఈ విధంగా కుంట్లు పడుతోంది. ఇక loans ఇచ్చే విషయం గమనించండి. రసాయనకవులకు తెలుసుకోవడానికి అప్పు ఇస్తామంటారు. స్థానికంగా లభ్యమయ్యే ఎరువులను కొనుక్కోనే నిమిత్తం అప్పులు ఇవ్వమంటున్నారు. దీనివల్ల బలవంతంగా సరిగా ఉపయోగపడని రసాయన ఎరువులను రైతుల నైతిమీద రుద్దడం జరుగుతోంది. ఇంక అప్పులు sanction చేసే సందర్భంలో కూడా చాలా అన్యాయాలు జరుగుతున్నాయి. అనేక మంది రైతులవద్దనుంచి అప్పులకు దరఖాస్తులు తీసుకొంటున్నారు. కాని వాటిని sanction చేయడం లేదు. Application form లను అప్పువేయించుకోవచ్చునని రాయలసీమ జిల్లాలలో అంగీకరించారు. కాని గుంటూరు జిల్లాకు వచ్చేసరికి application form లు అప్పు వేయించుకోవడానికి వేయించుకుంటే ప్రాసీక్యూటర్ కూడా అంగీకరించడానికి వ్యవసాయశాఖవారు నిరాకరించేసిన సమాఖ్యలో సభ్యులుగా ఉన్నవారికే అప్పులు మంజూరు చేస్తామంటున్నారు. ఇదిచరకటనుంచి ఉన్న రైతు సమాఖ్యలోని సభ్యులకు అప్పులు ఇవ్వటం లేదు. ఇది చాలా అన్యాయం.

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“పంటలు సరిగా పండాలంటే నీరు ఉండాలి. నూతులలోనుంచి నీరు తోడుకోవడానికి ఇంజనీరు సరిగా ఇవ్వటంలేదు. Agricultural Department వారు ఒక రైతుకు ఇంజనీరు ఇవ్వాలని సిఫార్సుచేస్తే Industries Department వారు దానికి అంగీకరించడంలేదు. ఈ విధంగా ఒక డిపార్టుమెంటువారి అభిప్రాయాన్ని ఇంకొక డిపార్టుమెంటువారు మన్నించకపోయినట్లైతే రైతుకు ఏ విధంగా ప్రభుత్వం సహాయపడగలదో గమనించాలి. ఇక ఇంజనీరు కొనుక్కోనే సందర్భంలో కూడా రైతులు కంపెనీలనుంచి స్వయంగా కొనుక్కుంటేనే అది ఏ మూడు వేల రూపాయలతో లభ్యమవుతుంది. లేక Agricultural Department ద్వారా అప్పు తీసుకొని ఇంజనీరు తీసుకుంటే దాని ధర ఏ అయిదువేలూ ఉంటోంది. వ్యవసాయశాఖ సహాయం కోరినవారు ఈ హద్దు ధరలను కొనుక్కోవలసి వస్తోంది.

“ఇక కొలతలు, బరువుల విషయం ఆలోచించండి. ఈ విషయంలో ఒక పద్ధతి అంచనా విమీలేదు. ఒక ప్రాంతంలో వీశకు నాలుగు కేల్లంటే, వేరొక ప్రాంతంలో 5 కేల్ల ఒక వీశ అవుతుందంటారు. కొన్ని జిల్లాలలో ఖట్టి అంటే 2 బస్తాలు, మరి కొన్ని జిల్లాలలో 13 బస్తాలు. ఈ లేదాలు లేకుండా రాష్ట్రానికింతకూ ఈ బరువులు, కొలతలు ఒకే విధంగా ఉండేటట్లు చూడవలసినదని ప్రభుత్వవారిని కోరుతున్నాను.

“ఇకపోతే Agricultural Statistics విషయం చూడండి. Revenue Department వారు ఇచ్చే Statistics ఒక విధంగా ఉంటాయి. Agricultural Department వారు ఇచ్చే Statistics ఇంకొక విధంగా ఉంటాయి. ఒకదానికి ఇంకొకదానికి ఎటువంటి పోలికా ఉండదు. ఈ విషయంలో రానున్న రానుగారి కమిటీ రిపోర్టులో ఏముందో గమనించండి. Agricultural Department వారు ఇచ్చిన Statistics చాలా లోపభూయిష్టంగా ఉంటోంది. ఈ Statistics లో చాలా విషయాల గురించి “no information is furnished” అని ప్రాసీ ఉంటుంది. పంట ఎంత వచ్చింది, సాగుబడి ఖర్చు ఎంతైంది, వ్యవసాయదారునికి లాభ సాటిగా

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అన్నదా లేదా అనే విషయాలపై సంఘమున information ఇవ్వడం లేదు. statistics ఇతర లోపాలున్నట్లుగా ఉంటే మన దేశంలో Agr. cultural economy న గురించి భవిష్యత్తు అధికారాలుల్ని విస్తరించుకోవటానికి విలువ ఉంటుంది.

“ఇక Agricultural college ల విషయం చూడండి. న్యాయబహుదారుల ఒకటి, బాపట్లలో ఒకటి, మొత్తం రెండు వ్యవసాయ కళాశాలలున్నాయి. వీటిలో బాపట్ల కళాశాలను ఎత్తివెస్తారేమోనని భయపడడానికి ఒకటి ఉంది. ఇక పుట్టి అధి వృద్ధి పరకొడన కేంద్రాల విషయం చూడండి. ఒకటి పితాపురంలోను రెండవది రాజుపేటలోను ఉన్నది. ఆ మధ్య రాజుపేట కేంద్రాన్ని మూసివేద్దామనుకొన్నారు. కానీ ఆ ప్రాంత ప్రజలపద్ధతులను పట్టికెచ్చిన కారణంవలన, మరో కారణంవలన ఆ కేంద్రం పరిమించుకొన్నది.

“సామాన్య రైతాంగానికి వ్యవసాయ రంగంలో అధునిక పద్ధతుల గురించి తెలియజేసే నిమిత్తం వ్రాయుచున్నామని చెప్పుకోవడంలేదు. వ్యవసాయదారుల కట్టెలు, 3rd form వరిని పడుకొన్న తరువాత, కొంత కాలం వ్యవసాయాన్ని గురించి బోధన చెయ్యవలసిందిగా కోరుకుంటున్నాను.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“The hon. Member has one more minute only.”

*SRI VAVILALA GOPALAKRISHNAIAH:—“నేను cut motionను ప్రతిపాదించుచున్నావానికి కనుక మరే కోరిక వ్యవధి ఇవ్వవలసినదని అభ్యర్థించానికి కోరుతున్నాను. తరువాత మి ఇట్లు.

“బంజరు భూములను సాగులోనికి తెచ్చే విషయం ఆలోచించండి. అధికాంశ రోడ్లపై పరగాలంటే భూమిలని రైతులకు ఒకటి భూమిని సాగుకు ఇవ్వడం చాలా అసంభవం. ముఖ్యంగా అడవి ప్రాంతాల్లో సాగును పంపిణీ చేసే భూమి ఎంతో ఉన్నది. దానిని పేదరైతులకు సాగుకొల్పవచ్చు. ఈ విషయంలో Forest Department వారిని రైతులు ఆడగలే ముందు మీరు ఒక సహకార సంఘంగా ఏర్పడి రబ్బరు చెయించుకోండి. తరువాత భూములు ఇచ్చే విషయం చూస్తామంటారు. Co-operative Department వారిని ఆడగలే ముందు మీరు భూమి సంతాదించండి తరువాత రబ్బరు సంతాదించారు. ఇలాగే Agriculture Department వారు, Revenue Department వారు, బంజరు భూములను సాగులోనికి తెచ్చుకోవచ్చు విషయంలో పేద రైతులకు లోడ్పడకుండా మనవి చెప్పాల్సి ఉన్నది. ముఖ్యంగా ఈ విషయముల గురించి మనవి చెసుకొన్నాము, అటునా ఫలితం నొపించడంలేదు.”

*SRI ANTONY PETER:—“Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to speak in support of the Demand on Agriculture, which is fairly an acceptable one, considering the present circumstances when our wants and demands are many and the resources at our disposal limited. But I must say that the cut in the allotment for electricity and irrigation will be much felt by the agriculturists, especially by those in the non-delta areas where there is a cry for electric energy for irrigation purposes as many of these proposals may be postponed and some of the minor irrigation schemes dropped for want of sufficient funds.

“Sir, since the time at my disposal is short, I will confine myself only to some of the present difficulties of agriculturists in the non-delta areas like Manapparai sub-taluk, where the conditions prevailing are not as was expected some months back.

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“ Sir, when I speak about some measures for alleviating the sufferings of the people in and around my place, of whom I have first hand information, it also applies to those parts of the State, where such conditions prevail.

“ Sir, my area is one of the most drought-affected and in the present conditions, even deepening of irrigation wells does not bear fruit on account of the failure of monsoon for seven successive years. This year dry land cultivation is practically nil. Even now pattadars holding 3 to 5 acres of land are living on one meal a day, their purchasing power deteriorating day by day. Drinking water wells in villages are very few and most of them are completely dry. Unless timely measures are taken by way of deepening drinking water wells and providing the people with relief work, I am afraid very soon we will find many isolated ‘ Rayalaseemas ’ and places like these.

“ Such being the sorry state of life of the agriculturists in non-delta areas, Sir, I would welcome the suggestion made by some of the hon. Members of this House to exempt the dry land cultivators from the proposed surcharge on land revenue but, at the same time, I am of opinion that the levy of heavy taxes on commercial crops will be injurious to ryots in these parts, as raising of many of these crops like cotton and groundnut solely depends upon timely rain which is quite uncertain.

“ Regarding deepening of irrigation wells, the only successful way of getting sufficient water in these parts, is by the use of boring implements. In this connexion, I would like to make a suggestion that the Government, instead of granting subsidies for sinking new wells, may supply a good number of these hand boring sets to the ryots, free of charge, and it will be well and wise if such distribution is made through village co-operative societies.

“ In connexion with the other irrigation facilities in this area, I would like to bring to the notice of the Government that in spite of the various representations made to the previous Government and many petitions sent to the Electricity Supply Corporation concerned during the past 12 years and more to extend the electricity supply lines from Manapparai to Vyampatty, no steps have been taken so far. I may also add that the extension of these lines to Palakurichi and Thuvarangurichi is a necessity under the present circumstances.

“ The proposal to build a small anicut over Ponnani river and a storage tank at Kannoothoo have not yet materialized although it was said that these were awaiting expert opinion. Therefore, I request the Government to take necessary steps so that this unfortunate area may be given these facilities as early as possible.

“ Sir, our agriculturists know how to grow more food. Their present crying need is not instruction in modern scientific methods of cultivation, but sufficient supply of water and manure at the proper time. They know much about the cattle wealth, but how can we expect them to improve the breed when herds of their

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cattle are being sent to the slaughter-house every day for want of grazing grounds? They know that by the abundant use of green manure they can multiply the yield from the land, but where can they find it when they have no easy access to the nearby forests? Even the small quantity of artificial manure supplied by the Government is not made available to the ordinary ryot in season and at a moderate price.

“Therefore, Sir, I request the Government to make arrangements for issuing permits for grazing and cutting green leaves for manure from the adjoining Government forests in such a manner that the ryots can have these benefits without much difficulty.

“Regarding agricultural implements, I would suggest that the Government may insist upon every merchant to whom iron is supplied for making agricultural implements to supply the required number of these implements to the Agriculture Department from every quota so that they may be distributed to the ryots through village co-operative societies.

“Sir, for the improvement of agriculture and the advancement of their economic conditions, the agriculturists must have good health and proper education. Medical relief and primary education are a real necessity, in addition to a net-work of roads connecting all the main villages. For all these facilities we have to depend chiefly on the District Board. Sir, the President of our District Board is really doing very good work in this respect. I am sure he will continue to satisfy the needs of the villages to a considerable extent, if the Government are good enough to place a substantial amount at his disposal by increasing the usual grant to the District Board from the Motor Vehicles Tax in which case the Government are now getting nearly five times the original tax.

“Before concluding my speech, I will be failing in my duty if I do not express my opinion on a matter affecting the physical and spiritual vitality of the agriculturists. During the general discussion on the Budget, one of the hon. Members of this House suggested that birth control appliances might be supplied to all villages. Sir, I strongly oppose this measure on mental, moral, and physical grounds and request the Government not to encourage this criminal method of birth control. As Gandhiji himself has said, ‘self-control is the best way of birth control’. Let not these novel introductions resulting in acts against Nature interfere with the calm and contented life of the villagers.

“Sir, since my time is up, I will conclude my speech with a request to the Government that concession in school fees may be given to all Christian Harijans, and exemption from endowment may be granted at least in the case of those secondary schools conducted by well-established religious organizations.”

SRI V. R. NAGARAJAN:—“Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the cut motion moved by my hon. Friend Sri Vavilala Gopalakrishnaiah. Sir, we are now on a matter relating to the peasant. The peasant is the most important man in the economy of things obtaining in our land, but he is, at the same time, the most

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neglected man also. There are very many ills in Indian agriculture and so far as the South Indian peasantry is concerned, we have got to direct our attention to a greater extent than we have hitherto been doing to his needs and wants. Sir, since the time at my disposal is very short, I shall briefly narrate to you some of the most important needs of South Indian peasantry and I would, in that connexion, request the State Government to have some clear-cut plan, five-year plan, if necessary, so that it may be executed in the course of one regime of our administration. It may not be possible for the Government to take up all the problems pertaining to the State and be trying to execute schemes to solve them one after another. If they take up all the schemes, they may not be able to satisfactorily execute any one of them. Therefore, it would be much better in the interests of our agriculture for the Government to take up this problem and give it the topmost priority so that this problem may cease once and for all at least to a limited extent. For the improvement of agriculture, we need a lot of ruralization. As I said on another occasion on the floor of this House, I wish to state that ruralization must begin at least now and we must put a stop to urbanization slowly and steadily so that we may be able to do some concrete help to our agricultural brethren. The most serious problem affecting the South Indian peasant is his indebtedness. The ryot and his debts are two inconsistent things in my opinion. No ryot can function properly with debts. The ryot who is employed in the most useful service for humanity will not be able to carry on his avocation and render his bit of service to humanity if he is going to be kept in perpetual want. So far as this State is concerned, he has been obviously in need and his needs have been mostly due to poverty. Perpetual poverty has stunted his progress and he has not been able to render his service to humanity properly. Therefore, I submit that his debts must be wiped out now. To achieve this object, between 1937 and 1939 when the present Chief Minister was at the helm of affairs, he brought forward, what was known as the Madras Agriculturists' Debt Relief Act of 1938. That is an Act designed to give some relief to poor agriculturists in the matter of some debts. But that was a matter of scaling down his debts. The scaling down affected only certain old debts and it also effected some changes and some reductions in the rates of interest payable by him. At that time, I may recall to the memory of this House, it was also considered whether a moratorium could be declared. The pros and cons were considered but, for some reason, it was given up. I submit to this House that a bold measure such as that is called for in the agrarian economy that is now obtaining. Unless we are able to do some such thing which will go a long way to help the ryot, he will not be able to progress. Therefore, I would request the Hon. the Chief Minister to see whether even now a moratorium cannot be declared, at least in respect of small debts of our agriculturists amounting to less than Rs. 500. That is one of my humble requests to the Government.

“To solve the problem of agriculture, much of departmental, concentrated work is also needed. We need for that purpose an able and efficient administrator, whether he is the Secretary of the

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Department or any other official. In this connexion, I would recall to this House the name of a famous person in North India. He was an Englishman and not an Indian. But still we would like to have some replicas of such persons. He was Mr. M. L. Darling of the Punjab. That gentleman devoted a lot of his time and the best part of his time to the care of the ordinary Punjab peasant. The Punjab peasant was known for his indebtedness. He was paying interest at the rate of 75 per cent per annum. It seemed that slowly and steadily the Punjab peasantry might get ruined. Ultimately the problem assumed very serious proportions and it was tackled in a way. I would, therefore, advocate that some such thing will have to be done for South Indian peasants too, if we want to help them in a real way.

"Now, what is most needed for the ordinary peasants? I am now talking about the small-scale owners of lands and not about the big landlords. The small landholders want to have oil engines or electric pumpsets. They are most essential things. But what is happening to-day? If an application is put in to the Agricultural department for the supply of an oil engine, it generally takes two years and sometimes even three years to get it. I would say, at any rate, more than six months would be unnecessary for this purpose. If the department takes more than six months for the supply, it would be harassing the ryot and it would not be helping him at all. Therefore, I suggest that, if an application is put in for the supply of an oil engine, it must be disposed of within six months. Greater attention than at present must be paid to this question.

"In this connexion, I would also beg to mention that one other problem which has ruined our agricultural friends is the question of fragmentation of holdings. Some suitable legislation will have to be enacted sooner than later to stop this fragmentation of holdings, if our agriculturists should be saved from further deterioration. We may fix a limit of 5 acres to be the minimum extent below which a holding cannot go.

"I would also make one or two points about the relationship that exists between the landlords and the tenants. We also see, even during question-hour in this House, how tenants are being evicted from time to time either because new legislations are going to come or because the landlords do not want the tenants. I say that some protection must be given to the tenants here and now. They cannot be left to the tender mercies of the capitalist landlord. We will have to embark on land legislation to protect the privileges of the tenant and to see that his occupancy rights are not taken away and that he is not evicted for unnecessary reasons.

"Then comes the question of minimum wages and regulation of employment hours into the picture. If we want our ryots to produce more and more for the benefit of the consuming public, then we must tackle this question of minimum wages and also employment hours. Special concessions will have to be given to the ryots so that they may be kept above want. A prosperous and contented band of agriculturists is an asset to this State and

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I appeal to the Government that they may formulate some definite plans to help the ordinary ryots. With these words, I conclude my speech."

* **SRI RAJA SAGI SURYANARAYANA RAJU:**—“అప్పుడు, ఇప్పుడు వ్యవసాయాన్ని గురించి మన ఆసంగి హాలులో మామకోట్ల చిట్టర రూపాయుడి మాంతును నేను ఆమోది చేయవ్వాను. ఈ విషయమై నేను కొన్ని కుఖ్యమైన విషయాలపై సంగతులు నాకు తెలిసిన తరుణము మీతో మానక చెప్పవ్వాను. వివిధ విమీటంట్ల యీ వ్యవసాయార్థవృద్ధి విషయములో మన దేశము వ్యవసాయము అనేక విధాలుగా ఉత్పన్నమైన స్థితిలో పూర్వకాంతము నుంచి భ్రష్టమైన మరల మరల రక్షణ పుష్కలము తీరాలెని మనవి చేయవ్వాను. గత కాలమును ప్రభుత్వము మరల రాష్ట్రములోని వ్యవసాయదార్లకు విలాపి ఉపయోగం కలిగించలేదు. అందువలననే మనకు ఆహార పదార్థాలు పండించలేక పోవడము జరిగిందనిన విషయము చాలా ఉద్వేగమును అనుభవించుచున్నాము. అందుకే యీ వ్యవసాయము విషయములో కొన్ని లాభాలు మాత్రమే కలుగజేయవచ్చును. కాని జనాభా విక్రమమైన కారణముచేత మనకు తగిన స్థితి వ్యవసాయ సౌకర్యాలు పరిశీలింపబడినా, ప్రతి తాలూకాలోను అందరికీ సమానంగా అంతకపోషణకు లోబడి కొన్ని పరిశోధనలో వ్యవసాయదార్లు అనేక యిబ్బందులు పడవచ్చు. కొన్ని రోగాలు కలగవచ్చును. రాష్ట్రములో నీరు లభ్యమౌచున్న నీరు సరైన సమానంగా కాకపోవడమువల్ల, నీరు లేని చోట్ల పంటలు పండికపోవడమువల్ల వ్యవసాయదారులు వ్యవసాయమును వృద్ధి చేయలేక పోవచ్చును, ఆకార పదార్థాలు పంట కొరత చెందింది. ఇంకొకాండు మరల దేశములో వ్యవసాయము వివిధ పంటల మీద జరగవచ్చు వ్యవసాయము వృద్ధి చెందలేదు. వ్యవసాయ సౌకర్యములు వ్యవసాయదార్లకు ఎరువుల సకాలము లో సరైన చేయలేదు. ఎరువుల కొనుక్కోనెందుకైనా యీ వ్యవసాయదార్లకు అప్పులు సకాలములో యివ్వడలేదు. యీ వ్యవసాయదార్లకు యిచ్చిన ఎరువులనా కొన్ని రకాలే యిచ్చారు. యింకా కొన్ని యివ్వనేలేదు. ఈ ఎరువులు విత్తనములు కొనుక్కోనుటకు అప్పులు యివ్వడంవిషయంలో సకాలములో వ్యవసాయ సౌకర్యాల గాను సరైన అప్పులు మజూరు చేయవలసిన చాలా శోచనీయమైన విషయమని విమర్శించుచున్నాను. ఇప్పుడు సరిగ్గా సకాలములో సరైన జరిగిన ఎరువు ప్రభుత్వమువారి నియంత్రణ వలనము లేక యివ్వడమైంది. అందువలన పోయిన సంవత్సరముకు యీ సంవత్సరము మన దేశము, రాష్ట్రము, అంధ్ర ప్రదేశ్ లో చాలా తక్కువ స్థితిలోనిది చెప్పవచ్చు. ప్రధాన సంవత్సరము ఎరువుల భరణము యీ సంవత్సరము భరణమగు చాలా శోచనీయమని మనవిచేస్తూ యున్నాను. ఇంకొకండు యీ గవర్నమెంటు వ్యవసాయాద్యోగములు యిచ్చినందుకు అంగ 1930 వ సంవత్సరములోనూ, అటు తరువాత కొన్ని సంవత్సరాలు ప్రతి జిల్లాలోనూ, తాలూకా తాలూకాలోనూ గ్రామములకు వచ్చి అన్నిరకముల కష్టములు చూడవచ్చును. అందువల్ల ఆ రోజులలో పంట అంతతక్కువగా కాకుండా ప్రజలకు సహజంగా చూడవచ్చునది. ఈనాడు వికారముచేతగాని యీ Demonstrators అటు కూర్చుంటే చేయవచ్చు విధో ఒక తాలూకా Headquarters లో కూర్చుంటే అధికమర్క చేయవచ్చు యీ వ్యవసాయదార్లకు వివిధముగాను ప్రభుత్వముగాను లేదు. దీని విషయములో ప్రభుత్వమువారు తన శ్రద్ధ వహించి అందుచున్నాను. గవర్నమెంటువారు Co-operative Societies పెట్టారేగాని పంటకుబడి కలవానికి అప్పులు లభ్యమౌననే కాని, వీర, క్రిష్ణా గ్రామీణ వ్యవసాయదార్లకు లాభి చేడములేదు. ఈ అప్పులు సరైన కాలములో లభించకపోవడమువల్ల వ్యవసాయదారులు

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అప్పులుచాలు కావడం తప్ప, వితనములు ఎప్పుడు కొనుక్కునేటందుకు డబ్బు సకాలములో అందటంలేదు. అందుచేత వ్యవసాయమును వృద్ధిచేసి ఎక్కువ పంట పండించలేకపోతున్నాం. మన రాష్ట్రములో వేలాది ఎకరాల భూమి సాగులోనికి తీసుకురాగల భూములు అనేక జిల్లాలలో ముఖ్యముగా విశాఖు విశ్రాంతలో ఉన్నవి. వీటి అన్నిటికీని నీటి సౌకర్యాలులే. కాబట్టి ప్రభుత్వమువారు ఉద్దేశించే ప్రాజెక్టులను త్వరలో నిర్మించిన ఎకల ప్రజలకు చాలా మేలుచేసేవారు అగుదురని నమ్ముచున్నాను. యీ ప్రాజెక్టులను త్వరలో నిర్మించి, ఉద్యోగపక్షిని త్వరలో యీ వ్యవసాయదార్లకు సజ్జెయి చేయమని ప్రభుత్వంవారిని కోరుతున్నాను. యీ ప్రాజెక్టులు నిర్మించినట్లయితే యిప్పుడు బజరుగాల్తున్న భూముల చాలావరకు సాగులోనికి తీసుకొనిరావలగును. రాయలసీమ మాదిరిగా మా విశాఖపట్నం జిల్లా చాలా పెనుకడదిన జిల్లా అయియున్నది. నీటి సౌకర్యములు లేక ప్రజలు ఆ జిల్లాలో ఆహార ధాన్యపు కొరతపై అనేక కష్టాలు పడుతున్నారు. మా విశాఖపట్నం జిల్లాలో ప్రభుత్వంవారు ఉద్దేశించిన మార్చింపు ప్రాజెక్టు సమగ్రంగా నిర్మించి ఉద్యోగపక్షిని సజ్జెయి చేస్తే, వ్యవసాయదార్లకు ఉపయోగించడమే కాకుండా, పెద ప్రజానీకానికి ఆహార కొరత ఉండదు. బజరుగాల్తున్న వేలాది ఎకరాల భూమి సాగులోనికి వస్తుంది.

“దక్షిణ దేశములో యీ విద్యుచ్ఛక్తి సరఫరావల్ల వ్యవసాయము వృద్ధిలో త్వరదనిస్తే, అప్పుడు యీ విద్యుచ్ఛక్తి క్రింద చాలా ఖర్చు అవుతున్నదిన్నీ, అంతర్రెండులు అట్లు లేదనిపి ముఖ్యమంత్రిగారైన శ్రీ రాజగోపాలాచారి గారు Opposition Leader అయిన శ్రీ తేన్నేటి విశ్వనాథంగారు అడగినప్పుడు అట్టి సందలు వేమరాదని అన్నారు. ముఖ్యమంత్రిగారు ఆలా అన్వయము చేయాలని తమ ఉద్దేశ్యంకాదని, మా ఖర్చులే ఆలా జరుగుచున్నదిన్నీ, కావలసియుంటే రాష్ట్రం బాదర్లులాగున పంటకోవచ్చునని వారు అన్నారు. యీ విషయం లోనా అధిప్రాయమేమిటగా, ఒక సమిష్టి కమిటీని పంపిస్తే అప్పుడవలకు అందరికీ సరసమాన హక్కులు త్వరలో కాబట్టి, రాష్ట్రవిభజనలో త్వరలో అసెంబ్లీ సరసమాన హక్కులున్నవి అయిన్నాను. ఈ దశమున యీ రాష్ట్ర విభజన జరిగిందయితే అందువలన వారి స్వయంక్షమే ఆధారపడవలసిన ప్రాజెక్టు విద్యుచ్ఛక్తి స్కీములు ఎలా త్వరలో నిర్మించుకోగలరని మనచెయ్యచున్నాను. యీ రాష్ట్రవిభజన కేసులుములో మా ఆంధ్రులందరికీ ప్రత్యేక అధిప్రాయము ఉండాలని మనచేస్తూ యింతటితో విరమిస్తున్నాను.”

* SRI M. MUNI REDDI:—“Mr. Speaker, Sir, we are very sorry that this Demand has not been given top priority in this House. Very many hon. Members who are very eager to give some constructive suggestions are not at all given a chance. We are given only five minutes to speak and I do not know how it will be possible for us to deal with this vast subject in so short a time. Anyway, I wish to give some concrete suggestions within this short time.

“With reference to assignment of lands to landless people, many hon. Members have spoken. Indiscriminate grant of pattas to landless people will land us in a very precarious position and that will affect the agricultural industry. In this State, we have got two crores of acres of cultivable waste lands. If all these lands are assigned to landless people, then we will not have any grazing

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grounds or communal lands in the villages. This aspect of the problem is not taken into consideration. I think many hon. Members from the Communist Party were saying that more than forty to fifty thousand people surrounded them and asked them to see that all the waste lands were assigned to them. If all the lands are fully assigned to landless Harijans and other landless poor people, certainly we will not have any ground at all for grazing purposes. No doubt there are some genuine cases where people who are really poor have to be assigned lands and I have no objection if lands are assigned to such people.

As far as other things are concerned, under post-war reconstruction schemes, for development of agriculture and establishment of Research stations, they are spending two crores and seventeen lakhs of rupees. We want that agricultural boards must be established in every district and taluk in this State so that seed development, multiplication farms, plan production farms, poultry industry, fishery development, etc., can be encouraged and worked in a scientific way. The food problem is a problem of problems and many hon. Members have spoken on the manner in which it could be solved.

As regards the Tanks Improvement Act, no doubt, the Act was passed in 1949. But so far, the Government have not taken any steps in this regard. We have got 8,575,000 acres under water and our Agricultural Minister was telling us that they can develop to the extent of 1,500 pounds of fish per acre. If only the Agricultural department took some care and improved these tanks, which are more than 35,000 in number, we will certainly be able to develop the fishery industry.

In this connexion, I wish to state that fodder is also very important. If these tanks are not kept in good condition and if no water is available for irrigation, then we will not be able to supply fodder to the cattle. We have got a large number of cattle, but still what is the consumption of milk? In Japan, the per capita consumption is 60 pounds whereas in India it is only 2 pounds. If fodder is not supplied to our cattle in adequate quantities, we will not be able to protect our cattle. In this connexion, I wish to mention that the assignment of lands has got a direct bearing on this subject. If lands are assigned indiscriminately, we will not have grazing lands for our cattle and ultimately the landless poor owning cattle will be affected more than anybody.

5-30
P.m.

As for seed development and multiplication farms, I wish to suggest that the Government themselves must take steps to supply good seedlings to the ryots so that the yield per acre may be increased in this State. More than 1,500 acres of land must be earmarked for this purpose and the Government must engage labour and cultivate the land and see that good seedlings are supplied to the ryots. According to Government reports, more than twelve and a half per cent increase in production can be effected by supplying good seedlings to the ryots.

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"As regards grafts, the ryots have to pay four or five rupees for purchasing them. The Government must supply free of cost or at least at cheaper rates, these grafts to the ryots so that they may grow a large number of fruit-yielding trees.

"Coming to poultry, we must follow the example of countries like Denmark in the West. Most of the western countries have developed poultry on a co-operative basis and that system must be introduced in every village here so that the food problem may be solved satisfactorily. Sir, fishery development, poultry development, plant multiplication and other schemes should be worked first in the district and taluk agricultural research stations.

"The supply of agricultural implements has become a problem for the ryots. In Hosur taluk, for example, we have made many representations for the supply of agricultural implements to ryots in time. We are asked to form Iron and Steel Co-operative Societies, that is, fabricators' societies, so that the ryots may be able to get the materials in time. But there is a rule that only fabricators will be enrolled in the societies as members and that is a great impediment. The fabricators will not be able to invest any amount towards share capital and the ryots are allowed only ten per cent to contribute. So much so, the implements required by the ryots are not supplied in time. This position requires to be looked into by the Government.

"As regards supply of manures, the Government are having a scheme for the compost manures. The ryots are allowed to dig pits and compost manure is prepared. In this connection, I want to bring to the notice of the Government that if a man owns fifteen acres of land, as many as two acres will be required for digging pits. In Hosur, where some influential ryots have undertaken this work, more than four or five acres of land are to be earmarked for the purpose of compost pit manures only. I do not know how far the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture subscribes to the view that this is economical and is helping the peasants.

"Apart from the supply of agricultural implements, food-grains must be distributed to the ryots so that they might be in a position to repay their loan and be saved from the exploitation of the rich landlords. Unless the agricultural industry is given top priority, we will not be able to solve our problem of food in this State. In America and in other Western countries, they are following different methods."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member's time is up. The hon. Member Mr. Lakshmipathy will now speak. I fix five minutes for each speaker."

* SRI K. S. LAKSHMIPATHY NAICKER :—"சனம் சபாநாயகர் அவர்களே, விவசாய இலாகா மான்யத்தின் கீழ் பேசும்போது, இப்பொழுது இருக்கக்கூடிய விவசாய இலாகா எப்படி வேலை செய்கிறதென்றதைத் தென்பதைப்பற்றி சில வார்த்தைகள் சொல்ல விரும்புகிறேன். எவ்வளவு காலமாகவிருந்த விவசாய பெயர்ஷன் டீபார்ட்மென்ட் யார் என்பதை சில இடங்களில் தெரியாது. இந்த மாதிரியாக விவசாயத்தை மன்னுக்குக் கொண்டு வருவதற்கென்று ஒரு டீபார்ட்மென்ட் இருக்கிறதா என்று கூட மக்களுக்குத் தெரியாத நிலையில் இருக்கிறது. மக்கியமாக, அவர்கள் ஏதற்காக

[Sri K. S. Lakshmiopathy Naicker] [28th July 1952]

இருக்கிறார்களென்றால், விவசாயத்தை முன்னுக்குக் கொண்டுவருவதற்கான புதிதாக கண்டுபிடிக்கப்பட்ட சில கருவிகளை உபயோகிப்பது எப்படி என்று விவசாயிகளுக்கு எடுத்துக் காட்டுவதற்கும், உன்னதமான உற்பத்தியைக் கூடிய விதைகளை அவர்களுக்கு எடுத்துச் சொல்லவும் அவைகளை விவசாயம் செய்யக்கூடிய முறைகளை எடுத்துச் சொல்வதற்காகவும் அவர்கள் இருக்கவேண்டுமென்பதே நியாயம், இன்றையதினத்தில் அவர்கள் வேலை என்ன வாக இருக்கிறதென்றால், இரும்புகளையும், உரங்களையும் பின்னாக்குகளையும் விற்பதற்காக அவர்கள் ஸேல்ஸ் ஏஜென்ட் மாதிரியாக இருந்துவருகிறார்கள். ஆனால், மந்திரி அவர்களுடைய பிரச்சந்தில் அவர்கள் குறிப்பிட்டதாவது, 'அந்த மாதிரியான வேலைகளெல்லாம் மாற்றி இப்பொழுது கோவாபரேட்டில் டிபார்ட்மெண்டுக்குக் கொடுக்கப்பட்டிருக்கிறது' என்று தெரிவித்தார். கொடுத்திருந்தபோதிலும்கூட, ஒவ்வொரு கிராமத்திலும் எப்படி விவசாயம் நடந்துகொண்டிருக்கிறது, எந்த நிலையில் இருக்கிறார்கள், அவர்கள் இப்போது வந்திருக்கக்கூடிய நூதன யந்திரங்களை (Modern implements) ஐப்பற்றி விவசாயிகள் என்னதான் தெரிந்துகொண்டிருக்கிறார்கள், அவர்களுடைய விவசாயத்தை அதிகப்படுத்துவதற்காக என்னென்ன செய்து கொடுக்கவேண்டுமென்று அவர்கள் விவசாயிகளுக்கு யோசிக்கவேண்டியிருக்கிறது. அதிலும், செடிகளுக்கு வரக்கூடிய பூச்சி, வியாதி இவைகளைப்பற்றி விவசாயி தெரிந்துகொள்ளவேண்டிய நிலையில் இருக்கிறார்கள். இதற்கென்று ஒரு டிபார்ட்மென்ட் இருக்கிறதா என்றுகூட தெரியாத நிலையில் அவர்கள் இருக்கிறார்கள்.

"இதைப் பொருத்தவரையிலும் அவர்களிடத்தில் என்ன போதனை செய்துபார்திலும் அவர்கள் தெரிந்துகொள்ள முடியாத நிலையில் இருக்கிறார்கள். ஆனால், நேரிடையாக ஒன்றைப் பார்த்தால்தான் தெரிந்து கொள்ளக்கூடிய நிலையில் அவர்கள் இருக்கிறார்கள். கோயமுத்தூர் ஜில்லாவை எடுத்துக்கொண்டால், கோயமுத்தூர் ஜில்லாவில் ஒரு மத்திய விவசாயப் பண்ணை இருக்கிறபடியினால், அங்குள்ள விவசாயிகளுக்கும், மற்ற ஜில்லாக்களிலுமுள்ள விவசாயிகளுக்கும் மாறுதல் இருக்கிறது. அவர்கள் நேரிடையாக அங்கு நடக்கக்கூடிய விவசாயத்தை கண்கூடாகப் பார்த்துத் தெரிந்துகொள்வதற்கும், அதன் மூலம் உபபொழுது இருக்கக்கூடிய விவசாயத்தை முன்னுக்குக் கொண்டுவருவதற்கும் ஒரு வழி இருக்கிறது. இதுபோல் விவசாய டிமாண்ட் ரேஷன் பண்ணைகள் எல்லா ஜில்லாக்களிலும் நிறுவப்படவேண்டும். அவ்விதமாக பண்ணைகளை நிறுவி, விவசாயத்தில் என்னென்ன புதிய முறைகளைக் கையாளவேண்டும் என்று விவசாயிகள் தெரிந்துகொள்ளச்செய்யவேண்டும். விவசாயிகள் எல்லாருமும் ஒன்றுகூடும் இடத்தில் விவசாய பொருட் காட்சி நடத்தவேண்டும். விவசாயப் பொருள்களை அபிவிருத்தி பண்ணுவதற்கான வழிகளை எடுத்துக்காட்டுவதற்கு மாஜிக் 'லாண்டர்ன்' மூலமாகவது சினிமாப் படங்கள் மூலமாகவது காட்டப்படவேண்டும். அவர்கள் எங்கே ஒன்றுகூடுகிறார்களென்றால், வருஷத்திற்கு ஒரு முறை கூடக்கூடிய, திருப்பூர் போன்ற இடங்களில், காலநடை சந்தைகளில் ஒன்றுகூடுகிறார்கள். அந்த இடத்திலே அவர்களுக்கு இதுபோன்ற படிப்பிளையை படங்கள் மூலம் காட்டினால்தான் விவசாய மக்கள் முன்னுக்கு வர ஏதுவாக இருக்குமென்பதையே பிரசாரத்தின் மூலமாகவும் பத்திரிகைகளில் விளம்பரத்தின் மூலமாகவும், துண்டுப் பிரசாரத்தின் மூலமாகவும், அவர்களுடைய விவசாயத்தை அதிகப்படுத்தவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்வதானது அவர்களுக்கு சரியான படிப்பிளையைக் கொடுக்க முடியாத நிலையில் இருக்கிறது. ஆகையால், சர்க்கார் இதுபோன்ற காரியங்களை எடுத்துக்கொண்டு அவர்கள் முன்னுக்கு வருவதற்கு வேண்டிய வேலைகளைச் செய்யவேண்டும். உழவுயந்திரம், நிரவுயந்திரம் (Tractor-Bull-dozer) ஒவ்வொரு ஜில்லாவுக்கு ஒன்றுதான் இருக்கிறது. அதை அதிகப்படுத்தவேண்டும். இதுபோன்ற காரியங்களை அரசாங்கம் செய்து கொடுக்கவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்."

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P.m.

* SRI G. VAGHEESAM PILLAI :—"கனம் சபாநாயகர் அவர்களே, நான் இந்த விவசாய மான்யத்தை ஆதரித்துப் பேசுகையில் சில வார்த்தைகள் சொல்ல விரும்புகிறேன். 1938-39-ல் சென்னை அரசாங்கம் ரூ. 20,62,000-ம், 1945-46-ல் 74,06,000-ம் விவசாய அபிவிருத்திக்காகச்

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செலவழித்து வந்தார்கள். ஆனால், இப்பொழுது உணவுப் பற்றாக்குறை ஏற்பட்டதும் விவசாயத்திற்கு அதிக கவனம் செலுத்தி 1952-53-ல் ரூ. 3,87,43,300 பட்ஜெட்டில் ஒதுக்கியிருப்பதற்காக நாங்கள் மகிழ்ச்சியடைகிறோம். இன்னும் இதே மாதிரி அடுத்த வருஷத்திலும் விவசாயத்திற்கு இவ் வருஷம் ஒதுக்கிவைத்தவிட அதிகப் பணம் ஒதுக்கவேண்டுமென்று சர்க்காருக்குக் கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகின்றேன்.

“விவசாயப் பொருள்கள் நல்ல விலைக்கு விற்பதால் பயிரிடுவதில் விவசாயிகளுக்கு ஊக்கம் இருக்கிறது இந்த சமயத்தில் அரசாங்கம் நூதனமான முறைகளில் பயிர்ந் முழுகளைக் கற்பித்தலும், நீண்ட கால கடன் கொடுத்தல் மூலமாகவும், இன்னின் பம்பு ஸெட்ரிகள் தாராளமாகக் கொடுத்தும், விவசாயக் கருவிகளை அதிகமாகக் கொடுத்தும் உதவினால் விவசாயத்தை அதிகமாக விருத்தியடையும்படிச் செய்ய சந்தர்ப்பம் இருக்கும். ஆகையால், அரசாங்கம் விவசாயிகளுக்கு எல்லா வகைகளிலும் உதவியளிக்க முன் வரவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகின்றேன்.

“வெளி நாடுகளிலிருந்து உணவுப் பொருளை இறக்குமதி செய்யும் போது, அதற்கு அதிக விலை கொடுப்பதற்குப் பதிலாக, நம்முடைய விவசாயிகளுக்கு நீண்ட காலக் கடனாக பணம் கொடுக்கலாம். விவசாயத்தில் எருவிடுதல் முக்கியம். அதே மாதிரி நூதன முறையில் சாகுபடி செய்ய விதைகளைப் பொறுக்கதல், soil-க்குத் தகுந்தார்போல் நெல் நடுதல், selection க்குத் தகுந்தார்போல், நில வசதிக்குத் தகுந்தார்போல் பசுந்தமையிழும் விதம். இன்னும் இவையெல்லாம் கவனித்து ஆராய்ச்சிப் பண்ணைகளை நிறுவி, பழ வகை, நெல் வகை, எண்ணை வித்து வகை கரும்பு வகை முதலியவற்றில் ஆராய்ச்சி செய்திருக்கிறார்கள். இன்னும் அதிக ஆராய்ச்சி செய்யவேண்டும். கிராமங்களில் இவ்வித ஆராய்ச்சி செய்து, எந்தெந்த விதைகளை எந்தெந்த காலத்தில் விதைப்பது, எந்தெந்த முறையில் செய்பவேண்டும் என்பது அனேகமாக விவசாயிக் குத் தெரியவில்லை. அதற்கு விளம்பரம் அதிகமாகச் செய்யவேண்டும். நியூஸ்டீல் போல சினிமா பிரிமிகள், சுமார் 1,200 அல்லது 2,000 அடி நீளத்தில் தயாரித்து, அதை ஒவ்வொரு சினிமாக்களிலும் கட்டாயமாகப் போடும்படிச் செய்யவேண்டும்.

“‘மேரிச் செல்வம்’ என்று சர்க்கார் ஒரு பத்திரிகை நடத்துகிறார்கள். ‘கல்கி’, ‘ஆனந்த விகடன்’ போன்ற பத்திரிகைகளின் அட்டைப் படங்கள் போல கவர்ச்சிகரமாக இந்தப் பத்திரிகையின் அட்டையும் இருந்தால், அதிகமான பிரதிகள் விற்பனையாகும். அப்பொழுதுதான், அதிகமான பிரதிகளை விவசாயிகள் வாங்கி அதனால் பயனடைய முடியும். தினசரிப் பத்திரிகைகளில்லல்லாம் சிறந்த கட்டுரைகள் விவசாய ஆராய்ச்சிப் பண்ணைகளில் உள்ளவர்களைக்கொண்டும், விவசாய நிபுணர்களைக்கொண்டும், சர்க்கார் உத்தியோகஸ்தர்களைக்கொண்டும் அனுப்பவமுள்ள விவசாயிகளைக் கொண்டும் எழுதச் செய்யவேண்டும். அம்மாதிரி அறிஞர்களைக் கொண்டு எழுதப்படும் கட்டுரைகளைப் படிப்பதால், விவசாயிகள் நூதன முறைகளில் விவசாயத்தைச் செய்வதற்கு உதவியாக இருக்கும்.

“ஆரம்பப் பள்ளிகளிலும், உயர்தரப் பள்ளிகளிலும் விவசாயத்தைப் பற்றிய பாடங்கள் இதவரையிலும் அதிகமாக சேர்க்கப்படவில்லை. ஒவ்வொரு பள்ளிக்கூடத்திலும், ஒவ்வொரு வகுப்பிலும், விவசாயத்தைப் பற்றி ஒரு பாடமாவது பாட புத்தகத்தில் கட்டாயமாக இருக்க வேண்டுமென்று சர்க்கார் டெக்ஸ்ட் புக் கமிட்டியானவர் வற்புறுத்த வேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகின்றேன்.

“அமெரிக்காவில் High breed seeds தயார் செய்து, விவசாயிகளுக்கு கொடுக்கப்படுகிறது. அந்த விதைகளை அரசாங்க பண்ணைகளிலும், சொந்த பண்ணைகளிலும் அங்குள்ள விவசாயிகளுக்குத் தருகிறார்கள். அதனால் ஏக்கர் 1-க்கு 500, 1,000 பவுண்டு அதிகமாக விளையுக்கும். High breed seeds போடுவதால் மாதிரியும் ஏக்கர் 1-க்கு 500 பவுண்டு முதல் 1,000 வரைகூட அதைப்போல விளையும். நம் தேசத்தில் ஆராய்ச்சிப் பண்ணைகள் இல்லாததால் அதிகமாக விவசாயிகளுக்கு விதைகள் சப்ளை செய்யப்படுவதில்லை. High breed seeds நட்டு நூதன முறையில் சாகுபடி செய்தால் ஏக்கர்

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ఈ ప్రజల స్థితి బాగుపడవలెనంటే, గ్రామగ్రామములలోను వ్యవసాయ పరిశోధన కేంద్రాలు నెల రోజు వాటి వ్యవసాయాధివృద్ధిని చేకూర్చేటట్లు పనిచేయవలసిందిగా కోరుతున్నాను. తరీఖులు, తగిన తోడ, ను ఇవ్వ వలెను. మరియు ఆ గ్రామములలోను కోఆపరేటివ్ సొసైటీల నెల రోజులు, ఆవి రైతులకు ఎంతైనా సహాయం చేసేటట్లు. సకాముక రైతులకు శిక్షణను ముఖ్యమంత్రి సేటిస్తున్నాడు. వారి సమస్యలను లాభనాటికే అర్థమవుతుంది, వారికి కావలసిన వ్యవసాయ సదుపాయాలను సకమమైన ధరలకు తెప్పించి ఇచ్చేటట్లు చేయవలెను. మరియు మన దేశంలో ఉంటున్న లక్షలాది నిరుద్యోగులకు ప్రభుత్వము బంజరు భూముల నిచ్చి, వారిచే సాగు చేయించవలెను.

దేశంలో వ్యవసాయాధివృద్ధికి పశుసంపద అత్యవసరమైనది. కనుక పశుపదను తీవ్రతరంగా నిక్షేపించి, రాజ్యాంగ సూత్రం ప్రకారం వ్యవసాయాన్ని అనుసరించుటకు సహజమైన శాస్త్రాన్ని అనుగుణంగా అభివృద్ధిపరచుటానికి ప్రయత్నము పూనుకోవలెను. ఈ సంకల్పములో ఆటంక ప్రాంతాలలో వేస్తున్న పుల్లరి శిస్తును సంపూర్ణంగా మినహాయించాలి. అభ్యంతరాలను సేవలో మున, మేనెల సంభవించిన వర్షాలపై అనుసంపద చాల మునుంది. కొంత ప్రాంతాలలో అల్లలు వేల కొలిది వసలేయి, ఆక్రమి ప్రజలు విరివడము కి గురి అయినారు. దీనికి తోడు బంధావధి సంస్థానములలోనున్న పట్టి గాల్లతో కూడిన కొండలను ఆ సమస్యని ఇండియన్ యూనియన్ లో చేరిన తెరుచుకొని, రిజర్వు ఫార్ము ప్రాంతానికి ప్రకటించి ప్రజల పశువులను ఆ ప్రాంతాలలో తిగకుండా పడేస్తున్నారు. బొబ్బిలి తాలూకాలో అడవి కొండ ప్రాంతాల వసునంది యున్న గ్రామాలలో కూడ ఈ నిషేధము అమలులో యున్నది. కనుక ఈలాంటి రిజిస్ట్రేషన్ పద్ధతులను తలపెట్టి పశు సంపదను పెంపొందించుటకు తోడ్పడవలెనని కోరుచున్నాను.

తరువాత కమ్యూనిటీ ప్రాజెక్టులు వాలా ముఖ్యమైనవి. ఆవర్ణప్రాయమైనవి. అయితే, మనదేశానికి నిక్షేపము, ఖాదీ ఉత్పత్తి, నిర్మాణ విద్యావిభాగములాంటి ఉత్తమోత్తమమైన విధానాలు ఆవరణలో కొంగ్రెసు ప్రభుత్వ యాజమాన్యం విఫలత్వం పొందినట్లు కాకండా ఇవి సరకుగా నిరూపించినచో, జాతీయ సంపద వివరతరంగా పెంపొందుతుంది. మరియు పంప ర్ష ప్రణాళిక దిగ్విజయముగా అమలుకు వస్తుంది. కేవలం ఏర్పాధిపైనే ఆధారపడకుండా కమ్యూనిటీ ప్రాజెక్టు ప్రాంతములలో సేన భూమిలో సగముభాగము నీటిసామదల క్రిందకు తెచ్చి, ప్రజలకు ఎక్కువగా పనిని, జీవనధృతిని కల్పించడమే కాకుండా అధికావరోధాన్ని తగ్గించి, మూడింట భాగము భూమిని పశువులు మేయటముగాను, చంటి చెరుకులకుగాను తెలివితే గ్రామ సౌకర్యాలకు ప్రయోగించినందుల, అనుసంపద వృద్ధిబొంది వ్యవసాయము - అభివృద్ధి కాగలదు. ఈ కమ్యూనిటీ ప్రాజెక్టులకు నియంత్రించబడే ఉద్యోగులు ఇతరంతా విజ్ఞానము లేకుండా, సర్వకాలం దానికి ఉపయోగపడేవారుగా ఉండాలి. వ్యవసాయములలోను, అధిక స్థితిలోను, కనుక ఇదియున్న మా ప్రాంతములలో, ఈ సంవత్సరం ఒక కమ్యూనిటీ ప్రాజెక్టు నిర్మించవలెనని కోరుచున్నాను.

ఇక, మా బొబ్బిలి తాలూకా యాంతు ఎట్టేటు గ్రామ లగుటచే శిస్తు, నీటి లెక్కలు కలిపియున్నవి. ఇప్పటికే రైతులు పన్నుల భాగముతో క్రుంగిపోతుంటే, ప్రభుత్వము తిరిగి సర్కార్లను, నీటి అవకాశ బంతుల వేయబున్నాంటే, రైతు పురోభివృద్ధినికో దోహదమునగు విధానమిదేనా అని అడుగుచున్నాను. మా తాలూకాలో వెలుగు రిజిస్ట్రేషన్ ఉండినవారు. నీటి ఒడదులు లేక వెలుగు ఉడిచినది తెలియని కొంతమందిని నీర్లలేవు ఎరువులా, సకాలములో కొంతకపు ఈ కార

28th July 1952] [Sri P. Venkatesa Sholagar]

செய்தாலும் அடுத்த வருஷம் நிலம் தங்களுக்கு நிச்சயமாக கிடைக்கும் எனிறிருந்தாலும் அவர்கள் கடன் வாங்கி செலவு செய்து பயிரிடுவார்கள், பிறகு அந்தக் கட்டை திருப்பிக் கொடுப்பார்கள். அவர்களுக்கு குத்தகைக்குறைப்பு, வார உயர்வு, குடிவார உரிமை வேண்டும் என்று சொல்லிக் கொண்டு நான் இத்தகைய முடிததுக் கொள்ளுகிறேன்.”

* SRI K. VENKAIAH:—“ Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the cut motion moved by my hon. Friend Mr. Gopalakrishnaiah and oppose the Demand moved by the Hon. Minister. In doing so, I have to say that the interest evinced by the Government in the working of the Agricultural Department is most unsatisfactory. The work of the Department is not at all useful to the peasants and the tillers of the soil. The different commodities that are produced, especially groundnuts, tobacco, cotton and many other commercial crops are now being purchased by the foreign monopolists, mainly the British companies. The grip they have over the market of these crops is most harrasing. In 1941 I think even the Director of Agriculture said that the grip of the I.L.T.D. and the other monopolist companies over the commercial crops market was harmful to the trade and the interest of the producers. In spite of this, the Government have not taken any action to release the grip of the foreign companies over the producers. Of course, they have passed what is called the Madras Commercial Crops Markets Act. But the powers given to the Committees constituted under that Act are very limited. They are asked to depend on the Director of Agriculture for anything and everything. For instance, the Guntur Tobacco Market Committee submitted a report to the Government for fixation of the minimum price of tobacco. That is still pending and no action has been taken. Even as early as 1948 Government promised to appoint an advisory committee and see what could be done. But nothing has been done till now. Under the present arrangement, a number of members of the Committees like tobacco, groundnut or other committees are nominated. There are a greater number of traders on the committees than peasants and thus the committees do not serve the interests of the peasants in general. The Director of Agriculture appointed by this Government is an I.C.S. Officer and not a technical man.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“ The hon. Member's time is over. The hon. Member Mr. Senapathi Gounder will now speak.”

*SRI A. SENAPATHI GOUNDER:—“சனம் சபாநாயகர் அவர்களே, விவசாய இலாகா இதவனக்கும் வினம்பம் இலாகாவாசனம் வியாபார இலாகாவாகவும் நடைபெற்று வந்திருக்கிறது. இப்பொழுது நல்ல தினம் யும் அனுபவமும் வாய்ந்த சனம் விவசாய மந்திரி அவர்கள் பல சீர்திருத்தங்களைக் கொண்டுவருவார்கள் என்றுதான் நாங்கள் இந்த பட்ஜெட்டில் எதிர்பார்த்தோம். அனால் பழைய வியாபாரத்தை இன்னும் கொஞ்சம் கூட்டியே வியாபாரம் செய்யப்போவதாகத் தெரிகிறது. ஆனால் வியாபார முறையிலும் அதிக பலன் சாணவில்லை. ஏனென்றால் சென்ற வரலும் பொறுக்கு விதை சப்தை செய்தார்கள். சாராயும் தால்காலில் கம்போடியா சி.டி. 4 பொறுக்கு விதையை டிபார்மெண்டு மூலமாக விநியோகம் செய்தார்கள். அனால் அந்த செடி முளைத்தவரும் காலத்தில் 10 சதவிகிதம் கருங்கண்ணி செடியாக இருந்தது. அசற்றம் காரணம் யார் என்று தெரியவில்லை. பிறகு விவசாயிகள் எதாவது விதையைக் கவந்து விதைத்தார்களா என்று கேட்டார்கள். அதே சமயத்தில் விவசாயிகள் ‘நாங்கள் பலர் இந்த விதையைத்தான்

[Sri A. Senapathi Goundar] [28th July 1952]

வாங்கினோம். எல்லாரும் இதைத்தான் விதைத்தோம். இந்த பலன்தான் கண்டோம்' என்று சொன்னார்கள். 'ஆதலால் அது உங்களுடைய தவறுதலே தவிர எங்களுடைய தவறு இல்லை' என்றும் அவ்விதமே அவர்களுக்கும் தெரிப்படுத்தினார்கள். இவ்விதம் விவசாய டிபார்ட்மென்டு இருந்து அதற்கென்று பெரும் செலவு செய்தால் என்ன பிரயோசனம் என்று கேட்கிறேன்.

"அதுவுமில்லாமல் நமது விவசாய டிமாண்ட்டுகள் தாலுகாவிற்கு வருகிறார்கள். அநேகமாக அங்கே வருகிறவர்கள் தென் கன்னடத்திலிருந்தும் மலையாளத்திலிருந்தும் தான் வருகிறார்கள். அவர்களுக்கு அந்த ஏரியாவிடமுள்ள மக்களுடன் பேசிப் பழகுவதற்கு மூன்று வருஷங்களாகும். அதற்குள் அவர்களை மாற்றி விடுகிறார்கள். அதனால் அவர்களுக்கு பொது மக்களுடன், ஏழை விவசாயிகளுடன், அதிக தொடர்பு ஏற்படுவதில்லை. அந்த தொடர்பு இல்லாமல் எவ்விதம் விவசாயத்தில் அபிவிருத்தி செய்ய முடியும்? எவ்விதம் ஏழை விவசாயிகளுக்கு விவசாயத்தை போதிக்க முடியும் என்பதாகக் கேட்கிறேன்? உண்மையில் விவசாய இலாகா அபிவிருத்தி அடைந்து நமது விவசாய மக்களுக்கு ஏதாவது நன்மை ஏற்பட வேண்டுமென்றால் ஒவ்வொரு தாலுகாவிலும் அங்கே தரிசாகத்திக்கும் நிலங்களை

6 p.m. It being 6 o'clock Mr. Speaker proceeded, pursuant to the rules, successively to put forthwith the question on the Demand under discussion and also the questions on the other Demands notice of which had been given by Government.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—

'That the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 3,88,74,300 under Demand XVIII—Agriculture.' "

The Demand was carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND III—STAMPS.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—

'That the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 25,22,000 under Demand III—Stamps.' "

The Demand was carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND V—REGISTRATION.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—

'That the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 54,92,500 under Demand V—Registration.' "

The Demand was carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND VI—MOTOR VEHICLES ACTS.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—

'That the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 9,48,300 under Demand VI—Motor Vehicles Acts.' "

The Demand was carried and the Grant was made.

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DEMAND XII—ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—

'That the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,52,82,800 under Demand XII—Administration of Justice.' "

The Demand was carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XIX—VETERINARY.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—

'That the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 62,01,300 under Demand XIX—Veterinary.' "

The Demand was carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XXII—CINCHONA AND FISHERIES.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—

'That the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 84,65,900 under Demand XXII—Cinchona and Fisheries.' "

The Demand was carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XXV—CIVIL WORKS—WORKS.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—

'That the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 5,84,28,600 under Demand XXV—Civil Works—Works.' "

The Demand was carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XXVI—CIVIL WORKS—ESTABLISHMENT AND TOOLS AND PLANT.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—

'That the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,67,95,100 under Demand XXVI—Civil Works—Establishment and Tools and Plant.' "

The Demand was carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XXVII—CIVIL WORKS—GRANTS-IN-AID.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—

'That the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,21,33,800 under Demand XXVII—Civil Works—Grants-in-Aid.' "

The Demand was carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XXX—PENSIONS.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—

'That the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,93,94,900 under Demand XXX—Pensions.' "

The Demand was carried and the Grant was made.

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DEMAND XXXI—STATIONERY AND PRINTING.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—

'That the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 65,73,100 under Demand XXXI—Stationery and Printing.' "

The Demand was carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XXXII—MISCELLANEOUS.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—

'That the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,19,91,700 under Demand XXXII—Miscellaneous.' "

The Demand was carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XXXIII—ROAD TRANSPORT SCHEMES—WORKING EXPENSES.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—

'That the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,10,15,800 under Demand XXXIII—Road Transport Schemes—Working Expenses.' "

The Demand was carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XXXIV—PAYMENTS OF COMPENSATION TO LANDHOLDERS ON THE ABOLITION OF THE ZAMINDARI SYSTEM.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—

'That the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 70,00,000 under Demand XXXIV—Payments of Compensation to landholders on the Abolition of the Zamindari System.' "

The Demand was carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XXXV—CAPITAL OUTLAY ON IRRIGATION.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—

'That the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 8,90,30,100 under Demand XXXV—Capital Outlay on Irrigation.' "

The Demand was carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XXXVI—CAPITAL OUTLAY ON INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—

'That the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 32,49,800 under Demand XXXVI—Capital Outlay on Industrial Development.' "

The Demand was carried and the Grant was made.

28th July 1952]

DEMAND XXXVII—CAPITAL OUTLAY ON CIVIL WORKS.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—

'That the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,61,81,800 under Demand XXXVII—Capital Outlay on Civil Works.' "

The Demand was carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XXXVIII—CAPITAL OUTLAY ON ELECTRICITY SCHEMES.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—

'That the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 8,00,00,000 under Demand XXXVIII—Capital Outlay on Electricity Schemes.' "

The Demand was carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XXXIX—CAPITAL OUTLAY ON ROAD TRANSPORT SCHEMES.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—

'That the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 6,47,500 under Demand XXXIX—Capital Outlay on Road Transport Schemes.' "

The Demand was carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XL—COMMUTED VALUE OF PENSIONS.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—

'That the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 100 under Demand XL—Commuted Value of Pensions.' "

The Demand was carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XLI—CAPITAL OUTLAY ON SCHEMES OF STATE TRADING.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—

'That the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 8,80,800 under Demand XLI—Capital Outlay on Schemes of State Trading.' "

The Demand was carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XLII—LOANS AND ADVANCES BY THE STATE GOVERNMENT

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—

'That the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 4,12,38,300 under Demand XLII—Loans and Advances by the State Government.' "

The Demand was carried and the Grant was made.

MR. SPEAKER:—"I now adjourn the House to meet again at 10-30 a.m. on Tuesday, 29th July 1952."

The House then adjourned.

[28th July 1952]

APPENDIX.

[Vide answer to starred question No. 272-A asked by Sri S. Swayamprakasam at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on 28th July 1952, page 502 supra.]

Government have this year as usual appointed Selection Committees for the Engineering Colleges as well as for other Colleges. The Committee for the Engineering Colleges consists of—

(1) Dr. V. S. Krishna, Vice-Chancellor of the Andhra University.

(2) Sri L. Venkatakrishna Iyer, Retired Chief Engineer; and

(3) Lt.-Col. S. Paul, Principal, College of Engineering, Guindy.

Instructions were issued on 5th July 1952 regarding the selection of candidates for admission to the Government Engineering Colleges. These are almost the same as the instructions issued last year by the Government of Madras, except for certain details by way of clarification.

Last year 20 seats had been reserved to be filled by the Government at their discretion. No such reservation has been made in the instructions issued this year. Twenty-five per cent of the seats are reserved for the backward classes and 15 per cent for the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes. These percentages do not preclude candidates of the classes mentioned from getting more seats if they succeed on the basis of pure competitive merit.

As in last year, this year too, instructions have been issued to the effect that activities in sports or in the National Cadet Corps or Scouting or other similar activities, extra curricular social service, general physical condition and endurance, general ability and aptitude should be taken into account. A maximum of 50 marks has been fixed for this purpose to be allotted by the Committee to the candidates whom they interview.

Last year all eligible candidates were interviewed. This year the Committee is given full discretion to interview as many candidates as may be necessary to arrive at a satisfactory selection over and above the number of seats available. This probably amounts to double the number of seats or even more. Interviewing the entire block of candidates gave little time and opportunity for careful selection; hence this instruction.

Last year candidates were interviewed at four different centres. This year, it has been left to the discretion of the Chairman of the Committee as to where the candidates should be asked to be present for interview.

Last year, the Committee had the power to allot the candidates to various Colleges. This year, the Committee will make recommendations regarding the allotment to the various Engineering Colleges but final orders will be issued by the Director of Public Instruction.

After finalisation of selections, vacancies will be filled by the Director of Public Instruction from the waiting list prepared by the Selection Committee.